

THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

REGISTERED No. 44.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

VOLUME XXVI.
NUMBER 47.

CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1879.

Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8.
MOFUSSIL.....13-4.

THIS WEEK.

MONDAY, 24TH NOVEMBER.

THE WESTERN DAILY MERCURY published at Plymouth makes the following remarks on the cry raised by the *Indian Charivari* for indiscriminate vengeance in Afghanistan:

We quoted, the other day the *Hindoo Patriot*—a high-class newspaper, edited and owned by a native gentleman of character and attainments—a verse taken from the *Indian Charivari* calling for vengeance on the Afghan race, and even going so far as to say that it would be necessary to lay aside our Christianity for a time, that we might inflict vengeance on the Afghans. When this was completed, the "comic" writer continued, we could resume our Christianity. It would be difficult to conceive anything more horrible. The *Patriot* simply added—"Yes yes; cast off your Christianity and play the Devil incarnate." If we had another rebellion in India the life of the distinguished man who wrote this line would not be safe for an hour if a certain class of people only too well-known and very much too numerous had their wish. The army sent to Afghanistan has had various names suggested—"The Avenging Army," the "Army of punishment," and so on. It seems to be a generally-understood thing that to take human life abroad is not the same thing as taking life in England. We drew attention, some little time ago to the manner of some brutal men—not by any means true soldiers—in writing of what they called "hunting the Zulus." We have heard and read of like accounts of hunting down people in India, and we make bold to say that all such accounts are utterly disgraceful to the men who send them and to the nation in whose name they are sent. It was our business as a nation after the destruction of our Embassy to re-assert our power in Cabul. Anything short of that would have been destructive of English influence in India, and no one can suppose that this journal at all events has not followed with interest and admiration the gallant march and the hard fighting of General Roberts and his men.

To say that such terms as those used, above, with respect to the designation of the army sent to Afghanistan are un-Christian, would be deemed rather complimentary than otherwise by a man who can coolly recommend our soldiers to lay their Christianity aside till the work has been done in Afghanistan, after which it can be resumed when convenient. The man is not merely a brute, but he is also a coward, who from a safe place in Bengal can bound on brave men to forget their manhood as well as their Christianity. No wonder the people of India deem us worse than heathens. No wonder they laugh at our words of peace and good-will to men when a man calling himself an Englishman can thus urge our countrymen fighting their country's battles to become, as the *Editor of the Patriot* says, devils incarnate. Our Christianity—to preach which we have such gigantic organizations—is a poor thing if it cannot raise its voice when sentiments like these are uttered or written.

A LONDON CORRESPONDENT writes:

The electric light is now burning upon the Thames Embankment and Waterloo Bridge. The effect is admirable, especially so in the case of the bridge whose once gloomy cold, and suicidal aspect has undergone a complete metamorphosis. There are in all fifty lamps, and, unlike the Thames Embankment, these are so placed as to illumine both sides of the road at the same time. It is not quite as light as day, but it is light enough to read by and here as upon the embankment, the superior illuminating power of the Jablokoff candle has had one effect hardly calculated upon. I refer to the influence exercised upon the rougher portion of the community. The rogue abhors the light and this is shown with striking effect especially upon Waterloo Bridge which—once a scene of nightly disorder—is now singularly quiet and orderly.

So the electric light has proved an aid to the Police.

THE PIONEER'S Kabul Correspondent has the following:

"Nothing can be quieter than the city, which has 'always been so notorious for bloodshed and turbulence: the shadow of the scaffold is over it, and not one among the ruffians who throng its narrow streets and hide in its filthy purlieus,' but feels its influence. They have hitherto traded upon our own weakness—the worship of the quality of mercy, and it is only now that they understand the new principle of retribution we have introduced into our policy. Like Pollock, General Roberts might have destroyed their bazaar and left Cabul to its fate; but whether we withdraw again or not there will be the tale of lives taken by our hangmen still to be counted over in the city and the villages; and who knows yet what powerful names may not top the list?"

The italics are ours. Comment on the above is superfluous.

THE FOLLOWING story of the lash is related by the same correspondent:

"There is one prisoner in the row of tents where our captives are confined who is to be treated to-morrow to the smart punishment of 50 lashes, and his case is a peculiar one. When the Ghilzais and their allies were investing the Shutargardan, Colonel Money received a *jirgah*, who proposed certain terms which I have before characterized as absurd. The tribes proposed first that the force then in the Shutargardan should retire to Ali-Kheyl, the Ghilzais finding carriage for their stores, and giving hostages as a guarantee of good faith. This was declined, and they then made a similar proposition, giving Kushai as the destination of the troops instead of Ali-Kheyl. On this also being rejected, the *jirgah* said that on promise of payment of two lakhs of rupees they would disperse the tribes. This was laughed at by Colonel Money and Dr. Bellew, and the *jirgah* was dismissed. One Ghilzai chief losing his temper, said:—'Very well, to-morrow morning will come and out all your threats.' This part of the programme did not come off and this man had afterwards the audacity to come into camp here, no doubt to see how we were getting on. He was recognized and arrested, and to-morrow he will be sent back to his

tribe, well seared with the lash. He will, perhaps, use greater discretion in future."

So the lash and the lash are doing their work in Cabul.

MR. GRATTAN GEARY, who acted as editor of the *Times of India* for seven years, has severed his connection with that journal. The *Bombay Gazette* says, Mr. Geary contemplates a journey to Persia and Central Asia, and with that end in view is now studying the Persian language. His interesting account of his journey through Asia Minor has it is said created a sensation in Russia. As a journalist Mr. Geary was a tower of strength to the *Indian Press*. He also rendered himself very useful to the Bombay community in various ways.

WE give the following account of a congress of the Vegetarian Society of England:

The vegetarians of England have just been holding a congress at Cottonopolis under the presidency of Professor F. W. Newman, the eminent brother of Cardinal Newman. Considerable discussion was held took place upon a resolution proposed by the President, "That persons who desire to abstain from all meat of quadrupeds and birds, though they decline to bind themselves wholly to abstain from fish and marine animals shall be received by the society into an intermediate grade concerning which the executive may draw up the necessary regulations." The resolution was carried but by so small a majority that the question of carrying it into effect was left to the executive. At the soiree in the evening the "bill of fare consisted of stewed damsons, stewed Normandy pippins, stewed peaches grapes, "digestive bread," butter sweet cake, tea, coffee and milk. The party who partook of the feast numbered over 200 one-half of whom were ladies. Congratulatory letters were read from societies in Silesia, Berlin, Hanover and Sweden. The past year was spoken of as the most flourishing in the history of the society. Professor Newman in an address at the opening of the proceedings, said, they had abundant proof from Ireland that workers who ate the least flesh meat were stronger and finer men than those who accustomed themselves to meat diet. Similar proof was furnished from Germany, Russia, and Turkey. The Italians of the Apennines, who had very little flesh meat, were regarded by Napoleon as the most robust soldiers in his Russian expedition.

He might have quoted the example of India the bulk of the people of which have been vegetarians from time immemorial.

TUESDAY, 25TH NOVEMBER.

A CONTEMPORARY gives the following account of the Northbrook Hall, Dacca:

The city of Dacca may well claim to possess in the Northbrook Memorial Hall one of the finest achievements in Indian architecture. The building of which we had the pleasure yesterday of seeing a photograph is built in the Saracenic style, and at first sight reminds one of the Agra Taj. Of the internal decoration we can but state the opinion of the Officiating Commissioner, who says that it is very handsome and tasteful. The perforated screen-work at the main porch appears, from the photograph before us to be a very pretty piece of workmanship; while the two stone balconies with honey-combed corbelling add to the beauty of the superstructure, which, with the minarets—four large and four small—give it much the appearance of the Taj. Altogether, the Hall is a handsome building for which Dacca is as much indebted to the generosity of her public citizens as to the architects, Messrs Mitchell and Co., and their supervisors, Mr. James Lumsden.

THE Bishop of Manchester at a recent consecration sermon said:

It seemed to him sometimes as though the lease if he might so call it of Satan's dominion over the earth was being lengthened, because Christians, instead of being united and doing battle together against the vice, drunkenness, licentiousness, and luxury of the age, were fighting one against another about these contemptible trifles."

Hard truth this!

THE ROHILKUND DISTRICT CONFERENCE, which consists of eight American missionaries and eighty-eight native Christians, has raised the question of doing away with the custom of using coffins on the ground of expense. A correspondent of the *Lucknow Witness* says: "The coffins of the native Christian community of Bareilly in the past year have cost enough to keep up two ordinary schools or support a moderate catechist for a year."

It is stated that Italy is preparing to extend the suffrage to every citizen above 21 years of age, who can read and write.

THE STAR-GAZER of the *Indo-European Correspondence* has the following:

The starry heavens at the present time present us with a more than usual interest. Four out of the seven primary planets, and, perhaps, the four most interesting, may be seen simultaneously, daily pursuing their quivering path among the heavenly constellations, namely Mars, Jupiter, Saturn and Neptune. On one of these splendid November evenings, if you turn your back towards the ruddy streaks of the west just after sunset, you will perceive, at the opposite point of the horizon a fiery red star, which you might easily mistake for one of those balloons the Natives occasionally sent aloft at this season of the year. That bright white star inferior only to Venus in

whiteness and brightness, which you perceive southward, towering on high in the spangled heavens, is the majestic Jupiter. Between the god of thunder and the god of war, about midway slowly moves pale old Saturn of a lead-white hue.

AN ASSOCIATION has been formed in the town of Rajahmundry, which has, for its object, the encouragement and promotion of widow remarriage amongst Hindu women. Mr. Pida Ramakrushnah Garu, a native merchant at Coconada, has promised to place at the disposal of the Association interest on Rs. 30,000 and to render further assistance, if necessary.

REFERRING to the report that Sir Andrew Clarke is going home next month, the *Pioneer* says that "if one could ignore a condition of things as regards the relations of the Viceroy with his Council, which is but too notorious, it would be impossible to look on Sir Andrew's departure, even temporarily, without concern." Can a divided house stand? What is the cause of this division? Perhaps Sir John Strachey can answer that question.

WEDNESDAY, 26TH NOVEMBER.

THOMAS LONGMAN of the famous publishing firm at Paternoster Row is dead. His personality is sworn at £10,000. Mr. Blackwood of *Blackwood's Magazine* has also died. *Appropos* of the latter the *Englishman's* London Correspondent says: "There are traditions of a drinking bout at a party given by him in honour of Count Montalembert, the French writer and politician, at which the stalwart author of the 'Monks of the West,' endeavoured to cope with his Scottish host and fellow guests, but was completely floored, in the literal sense of the word."

WE UNDERSTAND that the Maharani of Vizianagram has subscribed one thousand pounds to the fund now being formed for the establishment of an Indian Institute at Oxford.

SIR ASHLEY EDEN has addressed the Hon'ble Syud Amir Hossain the following letter of condolence anent the death of the Nawab Ameer Ali Khan Bahadur:

Simla, 20th November 1879—My Dear Sir,—I received with very deep regret your letter of the 18th November announcing the death of my good old friend Nawab Amir Ali. I heard from him not long ago and was not at all aware of his illness or I should have written to enquire after him. He will be a great loss to Mahomedan society, and Government loses in him an old and valued servant. Personally I shall miss very much his loyal and hearty co-operation in all matters affecting the welfare of the Mahomedan population.

I am yours faithfully.

A. EDEN.

IT is stated that in recognition of the assistance lent by the learned of India to last year's Congress of Orientalists at Florence, the *Accademia Oriental* of that city has elected to its ordinary membership Dr. Gerson da Cunha, of Bombay; Drs. Rajendra-lala Mitra and Sourendro Mohun Tagore, of Calcutta; and Babu Ram Das Sen, of Berhampore.

*ACCORDING to the report in the *Gazettes of India*:

The number of persons killed by wild animals	1877	2,918
was in	1878	3,441
The number of persons killed by venomous snakes	1877	16,777
was in	1878	16,812
The number of cattle killed by wild animals	1877	53,197
and venomous snakes was in	1878	48,701
The number of wild animals destroyed was	1877	22,851
in	1878	22,487
The number of venomous snakes destroyed was	1877	127,295
in	1878	117,958
The amount of rewards paid for the destruction of wild animals and venomous snakes was in	1877	Rs. 1,03,017
	1878	Rs. 99,189
		A. P. 5 6
		12 2

THE PIONEER on direct taxation:

The argument which seeks to justify direct taxation in India by an appeal to necessity, is a very worthless one, because the utmost amount ever collected in that way is too small to be more than a minute fraction of the revenue.

If a financier in favour of the income tax were to say,—what can be proposed in exchange?—the reply is simple. It is the business of statesmen in high offices to work out other devices of taxation when those which first strike them are condemned as too injurious for toleration. That any particular statesman may be unable to find a way of balancing the national accounts except by resort to mischievous expedients, is a reason,—not for resorting to them, but simply for getting some other statesman to manage the national accounts more skilfully.

It has chanced now that the Indian statesmen who fought the battle are off the stage; Sir John Strachey has everything his own way, and his disastrous whim rides triumphantly in the ascendant. But the old scandals will accumulate and cry again for redress; the voices of the men who worked in the reform Lord Northbrook carried out will be raised at home, and all the deplorable feeling now being stirred up, all the native indignation roused, all the bad impressions sown abroad about the character of British Government in India will have been incurred to absolutely no purpose. It is strange that Sir John Strachey will not see this. He is not building his hobby

on a rock, merely on a bed of dry sand at low tide. The waves will again turn that foundation into a shifting mass, as surely as the moon goes round the earth and the only result of his present effort will be that his Indian career will finally close in the shadow of a failure which will be all the more impressive for being a repetition of a failure which already stood solemnly disgraced on the records of the Government of India.

This is bold and strong language, but we heartily welcome it.

THURSDAY, 27TH NOVEMBER.

THERE WERE 244 deaths in Calcutta, during the week ending 15th November, of which 106 alone were from fever, 36 from bowel-complaints, 12 from tetanus, 7 from phthisis, 11 from accidents and suicide, and the rest from other causes. Sixteen children were still-born and seven persons died from old age. The deaths among non-Asiatics and mixed races were 15.

THE MORTALITY in the suburbs of Calcutta in the month of October last was 821, of which 11 were from cholera, 1 from small pox, 418 from fever, 162 from bowel-complaints and the rest from other causes. The number of deaths in hospitals, jails and other public institutions was 186.

THE *Pioneer* has the following :

"The principles," Sir John Strachey says, "by which the levy of Ootry duties should be regulated were laid down by the Government as far back as 1868." And he adds, "I venture to say that those principles were unimpeachably correct; their accuracy has never, in my opinion, been in the smallest degree successfully impugned. What need to say this? Is there any opinion Sir John has ever uttered, which he does not think unimpeachably correct? Infallibility is, notoriously, his misfortune."

Bravo! Pi!

THE SAME JOURNAL, we are glad to observe, in discussing the details of the new Income tax Bill, endorses our opinion as to the iniquitous provision, which requires probable assesses to inform themselves to the Collector for assessment in case of omission of their names in the assessment list or to submit to a fine three times as much as the tax. Our contemporary says :

One could imagine a rather dull vestryman, who had never been out of St. Pancras, drawing up these provisions, if required to devise an Income Tax Act for India; but it is indescribably and even more surprising, to find old Indian officials deliberately digging such pitfalls in the path of a people peculiarly inapt to regulate their relations with Government by the red tape rules of European routine.

The prudent far-sighted list-maker will purposely omit the victim whom he marks down for the heaviest blackmail. Of course they will not report themselves, as required to, under this extraordinary Act. Is it in the native character to go through such a ceremony? Then the extortioner will have them in his grip. He will explain that he has only to cause the Collector to be informed of their names and that, for the offence of not having offered themselves up as victims of the tax, they will be assessed in such and such a class (three or four above that to which they properly belong;) and that, to begin with, they will have to pay three times the tax of that class as a penalty. No moderate language can adequately characterize the mischievous stupidity of this provision. The whole measure is an act for the cultivation of disloyalty, but this particular passage is its crowning feature.

This is Strachinianity pure and simple.

REFERRING to fever mortality, which is raging throughout the country, the *Bombay Review* says :

"It was admitted by the *Pioneer* recently—perhaps in a commonplace from Sir G. Couper—that the high mortality from fever testified to previous privation. But when will Simla awaken to a sense of the desperate situation of our poverty-stricken masses? Not at least till Simla's present lord leaves these shores, and not until we have a Finance Minister who has the decency to refrain from insisting cynical assertion that a man (head of a family) with Rs. 100 a year is not poor; he is a man far removed from poverty."

But what do our rulers care so long as the exchequer is filled?

MR. E. B. EASTWICK has returned to India for the cold season, his chief object being to get through with his revision of Murray's Handbook of the Bombay Presidency.

READ AND YOU WILL KNOW :

Sir Richard Temple's Government is bent upon making its widespread energy felt anywhere and everywhere. The great Shoe Question which disturbed His Excellency two years ago and led to the curious order that the students of the Colleges should not be allowed to enter the lecture rooms with Native shoes on has been all the more vigorously revived and it no longer affects merely the Seats of Science and Art amongst us but now extends also to the petty schools in the Mofussil! And the reason of this revival is said to be that when a Civilian Bahadur lately visited a school in his District he could not bear the sight of a number of dark boys sitting on benches with Native shoes on! He took up the matter, determined to rid himself of the ugly sight and the result is now known! *Indu-Prakash.*

Shade of Sir Elijah Impey! In 1879 the English rulers of India won't allow Indian boys to enter the school-room with their shoes on!

MRS. ANNA TURKHUDD, the youngest daughter of Dr. Atinaram Pandurang, of Bombay, has been united in wedlock with Mr. Harold Littledale, who has just come out to India as Vice-Principal of the Rajkumar College, Baroda. This is the first instance of the marriage of an India girl, who has not embraced Christianity, with an Englishman. We wish the couple joy and happiness.

WE ARE glad to learn that Babu Debendra Das, son of our well-known townsman and pleader of the High Court, Babu Sreenath Das, studying at Christ College, Cambridge, has obtained a College scholarship of £60 in Mathematics tenable for two years. The talent seems to be hereditary. The father was the best mathematical scholar of his day in the Hindu College.

FRIDAY, 28TH NOVEMBER.

WE TAKE the following items of intelligence from the last number of the journal of the National Indian Association: Mr. P. Arunachalam (Christ's College) nephew of the late Sir M. Coomara Swamy, has taken his degree of M. A., at the university of Cambridge. Mr. M. H. Hakim and Mr. M. D. Karangia have arrived in England to compete for the Indian Medical Service; also Mr. Parvati Nath Dutt, the second Gilchrist Scholar, for the study of Medicine.

THE MORNING PAPERS state that on last Friday a Brahmo inter-marriage was celebrated at No. 14 Wellington Square between Babu Ananda Chandra Ray, native doctor, Shilligoori, aged about 29 and a Kayastha by caste, and Srimati Anujanondini Devi, Brahmin caste, of Bali, aged about 22.

MOULVI ASHRAFUDIN AHMED, the eldest son of the late Nawab Amir Ali Khan Bahadur, has received the following letter of condolence from His Excellency the Viceroy :

VICEROY'S CAMP, DELHI, 24TH NOV. 1879.
Dear Sir,—His Excellency the Viceroy has received with deep regret the news, conveyed in your letter of the 20th, of the death of your father, the Nawab Amir Ali.
His Excellency desires me to express to you his deep sympathy in the loss which not only you but the Mohammedan community of Calcutta and His Excellency himself have suffered by the death of so highly and deservedly esteemed a gentleman, and so loyal a servant of the British Government.
I remain, Dear Sir, faithfully yours,
(Sd.) G. POMEROY COLLEY, Col.,
Private Secy. to Viceroy.

THE PRINCE of English editors is dead. Mr. Delane, the editor of the *London Times*, has been gathered to his fathers. He was the son of William F. A. Delane, Esq., formerly financial manager of the *Times*, who died in 1858. He was born in October 1817, and educated at Magdalen Hall, Oxford, where he graduated B. A. in 1839. He was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple in 1847. In 1839 he first became connected with the *Times* as assistant editor under Mr. R. Barnes, on whose death, in 1841, he was appointed editor-in-chief of that paper. Mr. Delane in his palmy days carried greater influence than even the Prime Minister of England.

THE MADRAS ATHENÆUM states that, on the 20th instant, the Princess of Tanjore distributed rewards to Pundits of Sanskrit Literature and Science. Nearly four thousand rupees were distributed among more than three hundred scholars.

IT IS BELIEVED that in consequence of the appointment of Mr. Reynolds to the Viceroy's Legislative Council Mr. Mackenzie will take charge of the Revenue Department, Mr. Macaulay will revert to the Bengal Secretariat and preside over the Financial Department, and Mr. Nolan will return to the Board of Revenue as Junior Secretary.

WE ARE GLAD to observe that Mr. William Digby, C.I.E., late Editor of the *Madras Times*, has been appointed Editor of the *Liverpool and Southport Daily News*, an organ in the Liberal interest. Mr. Digby rendered heroic service in the famine campaign of 1877-78, and is a sincere friend of the people of India.

THE BENARES MUNICIPALITY has voted Rs. 700 for the deportation of monkeys from that shrine. The *Behar Herald* says, "a contractor has applied to undertake this onerous task. He will submit a weekly return of the number of monkeys he catches and his remuneration will be fixed accordingly." But, what, if they return! Who will guarantee their permanent banishment?

SATURDAY, 29TH NOVEMBER.

THE THREE-MONTHERS have returned from Europe, viz., Mr. A. Mackenzie, Mr. Wells, Mr. Field, Mr. Croft, Dr. Lethbridge, and Dr. Mackenzie. They have each lost four days' pay in consequence of their detention at Suez.

THE ENGLISHMAN protests against the employment of Bengalis in the districts of Behar and Upper India. We believe our contemporary will allow that the sole condition for employment in the public service should be the fitness of the employee, and if the Bengali shews a pre-eminent fitness, why should he be shut out on the score of provincial jealousy, which we submit exists more in the heated imagination of certain officials rather than in the breasts of the people affected. But suppose that the Bengalis are ostracized from the public service in Behar, what will the anti-Ben-

gali officials do to keep them out of the bar. At the Behar bar the Bengali flourishes and the people come to him of their own accord and pays him handsomely too. Here there seems to be no jealousy.

THERE WERE 302 deaths in Calcutta, during the week ending 22nd November, of which 164 were from fever, 28 from bowel-complaints, 5 from cholera, 25 from tetanus, 17 from phthisis and lung diseases and the rest from other causes. Twelve children were still-born and 7 persons died from old age. Among non-Asiatics and mixed races the deaths were 13. Fever is fearfully on the increase and cholera is gradually extending.

WE ARE GLAD to observe that both the Presidency Magistrates of Calcutta, Mr. Amir Ali, and Mr. Anderson Souttar, who have just vacated the bench, have won golden opinions. The pleaders, practising at the Police Court, have presented them respectively handsome valedictory addresses, which they have fully deserved. Mr. Amir Ali's success has amply indicated the native claim to the Police Bench of Calcutta.

MADRAS was visited with a terrible cyclone the other day. A morning contemporary publishes the following telegram regarding it :

"The effects of the late cyclone were experienced as far south as Koval. There is not a single tank in the Ongola and Candakur taluqs that has not a breached bund. A wet famine in these taluqs will be the consequence. Whole villages have been demolished. All the rivers are down, and the Buckingham Canal is flooded. All the dry crops have been completely destroyed."

THE following is from a correspondent at Rutlam :

A grand Durbar was held in the palace yesterday evening in honour of the Kabul victory. The palace and the city were brilliantly illuminated and a royal salute was fired on the occasion. His Highness the Raja Sahib opened the Durbar with a short speech in Urdu, which was to the following effect: "Our just Government (British) has lately gained a victory at Kabul and its enemies have been visited with condign punishment. As this state has always participated in the cares and anxieties of the British Raj, I have thought it proper to hold this Durbar in honor of the victory at Kabul, and to congratulate the British Government on the same." The Political Agent and Superintendent Mir Mahomed Shahamat Ali C. S. I., replying on behalf of Government, said: "I cordially approve of what your Highness has said. This state has always been distinguished for its loyalty and attachment to the British crown, and I believe that your Highness with other members of your family were really very glad to hear the happy news of great success of our British army at Kabul. You are all aware of the kind manner in which our Government has treated the people of Kabul, and how ill they have requited that favour by massing its enemy. No punishment that it could inflict would be too heavy for the offence, but true to its motto, it will as ever temper justice with mercy. We pray that our Government be always prosperous, a wish in which you will all heartily join with me."

WE HAVE much pleasure in reproducing the following Resolution passed at a meeting of English gentlemen interested in India, held in London on the 14th October last :

Moved by Sir Charles Wingfield, K. C. S. I., and seconded by Mr. John Da Costa,—

"That this meeting congratulates Mr. Lal Mohun Ghose on the success of his visit to England, and upon the ability, moderation with which he has addressed himself to the discussion of Indian questions; and expresses a hope that, fortified by the sympathy and support of his fellow-countrymen, he will soon revisit this country."

This Resolution does honor to both the subject of it and to those who passed it.

THE CANNONPORT INDIAN ASSOCIATION have sent us a copy of their memorial in respect of the new Vaccination Bill. We are glad to observe that they have given their adhesion to it. They state that "the time has come when Vaccination may be enforced on the people of these Provinces by compulsory legislation, at least within jurisdictions of Municipalities and Cantonments." This is quite in accord with the opinion we have expressed on the subject.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals :

1. Report on the Administration of the Meteorological Department of the Government of India for 1878-79. 2. Indian Meteorological Memoirs Vol. I. Part III. By H. F. Blandford. 3. Progress Report of Forest Administration in Assam for 1878-79. 4. Notices of Sanskrit MSS. By Rajendralala Mitra L.L.D. C.I.E. Vol. V. Part I. No. 14. 5. Journal of the National Indian Association for November 1879. 6. A Letter to the Secretary of State for India on the past, present and future of the Indian Medical Service. By a "Surgeon-Major." 7. Is it Kadumvari's marriage or mere match-making, a drama in Bengali. 8. A Reprint of Mr. Lalmohun Ghose's Speech delivered at Willis' Room, London. 9. Proceedings of the Bethune Society for 1878-79. 10. Indian Postal Guide, No. 14, for December 1879. 11. Paricharika, a Bengali Monthly Vol. II. No. 7. 12. A Pocket Code of Civil Procedure and other Acts, with the latest amendments.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London, November 22nd.—A crowded meeting was held at Dublin yesterday at which resolutions were adopted protesting

ing against the arrests that are being made for seditious language. Mr. Parnell and the leading Home Rulers were present, and addressed the meeting.

33rd.—The latest advices from Capetown, dated 4th November, state that Sir Garnet Wolseley had decided "to storm Secoceni's stronghold. Affairs in the Transvaal are less threatening.

24th.—Another meeting has been held in Ireland, at which the policy of the Government in respect to Ireland was condemned and the Irish people were urged to persevere in securing free land. The Steamer *Penguin* outward bound to Calcutta has run ashore off Jebel Tugar in the Red Sea. There is a panic in New York in consequence of bull speculations railway stocks having collapsed.

24th.—The meeting referred to in this morning's telegram was held at Balla. Parnell addressed the meeting and counselled moderation. Several other meetings were held on Saturday, but all passed off quietly. The *Times* publishes telegram stating that Prince Bismarck has finally declined to participate in a Bi-metallic conference. Obituary.—countess Montijo.

25th.—The Chileans have defeated the allied forces of Peru and Bolivia at Iquique and captured the Peruvian corvette *Pilecomayo*. Daly, the proprietor of the *National* paper, has been committed for trial. Bail was accepted. Killen Davitt and others were remanded. Mr. Gladstone has arrived at Edinburgh where he commences his electoral campaign and has been enthusiastically welcomed. Obituary.—Mr. Delane Ex-Editor of the *Times*.

27th.—The latest advices state that the Chileans have captured the city of Iquique. Mr. Gladstone in a speech at Dalkeith favored the idea of local autonomy for Ireland. The Honorable Mr. Burke in a speech at Lynn, defended the Afghan policy of the Government and said that the occupation of Kabul had revealed unperceived dangers. He gave it as his opinion that a durable and civilising peace in Afghanistan was by no means impossible.

26th.—Mr. Gladstone, in his electoral campaign, made his first speech at Edinburgh yesterday, in which he framed a powerful indictment against the policy of the Government, and pointed out the necessity of replacing the present majority which was absolutely responsible for the said policy by a liberal majority.

26th.—Reinforcements of troops are being sent to the west of Ireland owing to an increase of agrarian intimidation. Davitt, the liberated Fenian arrested for sedition has been committed for trial. Bail was accepted.

28th.—The British Government is establishing in Canada a reserve of ten thousand men for active service in Canada and abroad. Mr. Gladstone, speaking at West Calder, said that the British policy was helping Russian aggrandisement.

29th.—Killen, Barrister, who was arrested for seditious language at Dublin, has been committed for trial. He refused to be bailed.

St. Petersburg, November 25th.—It is reasserted that Prince Gortschakoff is about to retire. Extensive internal reforms in Russia have been decided upon, and a pacific policy is expected.

26th.—It is currently rumoured here that it is the intention of England, in concert with Persia, to occupy Herat. The *Golos*, in commenting thereon, accuses Persia of ingratitude, and threatens a hostile attitude on the part of Russia.

27th.—The Russian Government is sending reinforcements of troops to Turkestan. The plan for the new route of advance is in preparation.

Paris, November 27th.—The Chamber of Deputies was opened to-day. M. Gambetta, in his opening speech, urged a policy of conciliation.

Rome November 23rd.—A new Italian ministry has been formed as follows:—Cairoli President of the Council and Foreign Minister. Perez, commerce and Agriculture. Magliani Finance. Depretis Interior. Villa, Justice and Ecclesiastical affairs. Admiral Action, Marine. Mancini Public Instruction. Breccarini Public Works. General Borelli, War.

Constantinople, November 21st.—The Sultan has approved the proposal of Baker Pasha that military service for all races and creeds be compulsory.

28th.—A body of Arnauts of Albania have massacred Ahmed Moutkar Pasha at Gusinje situated on the borders of the new Montenegrin Frontiers, which place had been ordered by the Porte to surrender to Montenegro, according to the provisions of the treaty of Berlin, with regard to cession of Albanian territory to Montenegro.

Berlin November 28th.—The state of siege in Berlin has been prolonged for another year.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy on Saturday the 6th December, at 4½ P. M.
Subject: Silicon and Boron.

NOTICE.

MILITARY SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

The 12th November, 1879.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General will hold a Levee at Government House, Calcutta, on Friday, 19th December, 1879, at 9-30 P. M.

All Civil and Military Officers are invited to attend. The Native Officers of the Garrison will attend, and be presented by their Commanding Officers.

Gentlemen purposing to attend the Levee are requested to send their names and addresses to the Aide-de-Camp in waiting not later than Tuesday, the 16th, after which date cards will not be received.

Gentlemen who have not already been presented at the Court of St. James, or at the Viceregal Court, are requested in sending their cards to add the names of the Gentlemen who will present them.

All Officers and Gentlemen attending the Levee are requested to bring with them the two cards which will be forwarded to them, one to be delivered on entering Government House, the other to the Aide-de-Camp in waiting at the time of presentation.

Gentlemen wearing uniform will appear in full dress. Gentlemen not wearing uniform will appear in evening dress.

The carriages of Gentlemen (except such as have the private entree) attending the Levee will enter by the north-east gate, set down under the grand staircase, and pass out by the north-west gate. Carriages will take up at the grand stairs.

Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Lytton will hold a Drawing-Room at the Government House, Calcutta, early in January, 1880.

Further details will be notified hereafter.

By Command,
A. CROOKSHANK, Major,
Officiating Military Secretary to the Viceroy.

The Hindoo Patriot

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1879.

REFORM AND RETRENCHMENT. XXV.

THE BENGAL HIGH COURT.

THE Government of India we hear has sent a sharp circular to the High Court on the subject of retrenchment, which the learned judges are considering in solemn conclave. They have already had some sittings. But as we hear that they have not yet made up their minds, we believe they will not refuse to listen to outside suggestions. In this belief we venture to offer the following remarks for their consideration. We may at once ask them to make their own minds easy about the reductions we will suggest. We do not propose to reduce the number of the Judges or their salaries. We will confine ourselves to the establishments.

We will first take the Original Side. There is the Registrar, the highest ministerial officer of the Court. This officer is in receipt of a salary of Rs. 1875, and is supposed to perform the duties of Registrar, Prothonotary, Taxing Officer, Accountant General, Sealer &c. There are as many offices as there are titles, some of which we have indicated above, and these offices have independent heads, who are responsible for the work of their respective departments. Every work pertaining to these offices is done in the office concerned, and the Registrar has no trouble on their account. It may be urged that the Registrar of the High Court has much to do, perhaps more than it is possible for one officer to cope with single-handed. This is a plea, which is the sheet anchor of every officer, whose berth is threatened in any way. He is sure to cry out that he has perhaps the hardest lot in the world. We confess we have personally much respect for the present incumbent, and we believe he does not spare himself in his work, but at the same time we cannot forget that there were times when we are informed he was absent on leave, and instead of any necessity being felt of employing a separate substitute, the work was well performed by the Chief Clerk in addition to his own duties and no arrears were left. This fact alone clearly shews that a separate officer under the title of Registrar for the Original Side is not wanted. Again, the procedure of the High Court, Original Side, has been so much simplified by the Letters Patent of 1865 by applying to it the Civil Procedure Code that there is now no excuse for maintaining a multiplicity of departments, which the administration of the English law had made necessary. The Code of Civil Procedure is the law which guides as much the High Court including proceedings in its Admiralty, Vice-admiralty, Testamentary, Intestate and Matrimonial jurisdictions as the non-chartered District Courts. Further, the Registrar in former times had had to attend the Bench of the Court, take down depositions, and do all the work now done by the Chief Clerk in addition to his own duties, whatever they might be. While the work of the Court has been reduced, its higher subordinate establishment has been enlarged by the creation of two more offices. In the place of one Registrar we have now a Registrar on Rs. 22,500 per annum, an Assistant Registrar on Rs. 9,000, and a Chief Clerk on Rs. 12,000, while the work

is perhaps less than what the Registrar had to do in former days. We were not a little amused to learn the other day that to the enquiry what reduction could be made in the establishment of the Original Side of the High Court, an answer came from the Registrar's Office to the effect that all the revision that could be done had been done by Sir Barnes Peacock! The revision referred to had reference to the Crown Office, in which far from any reduction being made there was an addition in the shape of an Assistant Registrar, though this officer has no connection with the Crown Office.

There can thus be little doubt that the salary of the Registrar of the Original Side can be saved. There ought to be in the High Court one Registrar on a salary of Rs. 24,000 per annum, who should be vested with the supervision of the establishments of both sides of the Court. We would further recommend that the offices of Accountant General, Taxing officer, and keeper of establishment expenditure be amalgamated and placed immediately under the Assistant Registrar, and the Chief Clerk be made the first subordinate of the Registrar on the Original Side. To enter into details. The duties of the Taxing officer might well be allotted to the Decree-writer, and while he would have the mere arithmetical calculation, if the Court in pronouncing judgment would take the trouble to decide the few simple questions, that might arise regarding costs, it would save the parties additional expense, and leave no room for ministerial influence. At all events the cost of establishment on the Original Side ought not to exceed Rs. 1,75,000, the present cost is close upon Rs. 2,00,000.

The cost of establishment on the Appellate Side is very near three lakhs of rupees and we are humbly of opinion that it is unnecessarily excessive. On this side there are a Registrar, a Deputy Registrar and an Assistant Registrar, the last two receiving Rs. 12,000 and Rs. 8,400 each. If there be any doubt about the sufficiency of work for the Registrar on the Original Side, there can be no doubt that the Deputy on the Appellate Side is a perfect dead weight. We would ask in the name of common sense of what earthly use is he, we do not allude to personal competency or incompetency, but to the necessity of an officer of his rank on this side. The present incumbent has had a sufficiently long lease of office and may well be asked to retire, and an excellent opportunity may be thus fairly created for putting to test the general opinion that this superfluity may be dispensed with. With one Registrar for the whole Court and an Assistant Registrar in each branch, we make bold to say business will flow on as smoothly as it is now doing. Then there is on the Appellate Side a staff of 29 translators, who cost the State from Rs. 60,000 to Rs. 65,000 per annum. When nine-tenths of the judicial officers in the districts are well acquainted with English and write their decisions in that language, and the majority of the members of the Mofussil bar are also English-speaking, one may well wonder at the entertainment of such a numerous and expensive staff of translators. Their legitimate work is to render into English the vernacular decisions of the lower Courts in special appeals and some of the important papers in criminal appeals. It is scarcely possible that there can be so many vernacular decisions as to call for the necessity of a highly paid staff for their translation; as for criminal appeal papers, we believe the work may be done with a small staff of translators. When most of the Mofussil Judges now write their decisions in English, and when the work of translating regular appeal papers has been taken away by the rules passed on the 30th September 1870, we see no earthly reason for retaining such a numerous staff of translators. Many papers for which the suitors pay are translated by the salaried translators and the remuneration received is credited to Government. This it is imagined is a gain to Government, but considering the cost of establishment and the liability to pensionary charge the gain we fear is illusory. This part of the subject we will notice hereafter in connection with the translation and printing charges of the High Court.

DIRECT TAXATION.

It affords us no small pleasure to observe that opinion is now pretty unanimous that direct.

taxation is not suited to the circumstances of the people of this country. Hitherto the battle was left entirely to the organs of native opinion. But the working of the License tax seems to have convinced the European public in India that while the financial result of a direct tax in this country is comparatively small, the hardship, harassment, annoyance and oppression are much too great to justify it. This is not the first time, however, that the issue as to the comparative merits of direct and indirect taxation has been raised. The question has been more or less before the public since the time of Mr. James Wilson, the first Finance Minister of India. Mr. Wilson took charge of the Indian exchequer under peculiar circumstances. The Indian empire had been shaken to the centre by the hurricane of the Sepoy revolt. Millions upon millions had been spent in restoring peace and authority. Large addition was made to the debt of India and a heavy deficit threatened the State. In this crisis the Government of India turned to England for a trained financier, and Mr. James Wilson, the editor of the *Economist*, was selected for the responsible work. Unhappily he did not live long to execute the task entrusted to him. As an English financier, he was not acquainted with the peculiar conditions of Indian finance, and therefore made a short cut to reach the goal aimed at. He proposed "three tremendous taxes," viz., I. Income tax, II. License tax, III. Tobacco tax. The first he imposed, and the people of India, though unaware of the perils into which they were being dragged, loyally submitted to it in consideration of the serious exigencies of the State. After seeing the working of the Income tax for six months, Lord Canning refused to impose the other two, which were consequently never brought into operation. Mr. Laing succeeded Mr. Wilson, and perhaps an abler and more thoughtful financier both before and after has never taken charge of the Indian exchequer. He at once saw the weak points in Mr. Wilson's policy of taxation, and as he was not in a position to give up the revenue derived from the Income tax; the next best thing he could do was to raise the minimum limit of taxation from Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 per annum, and to practically accept the first assessments for five years. Him succeeded Sir Charles Trevelyan, who had been previously recalled from the governorship of Madras for opposing Mr. Wilson's "three tremendous taxes." Sir Charles allowed Mr. Wilson's Income tax to expire after the stipulated period of five years. Both Mr. Laing and Sir Charles Trevelyan were opposed to direct taxation, and had publicly expressed their opinion against it. Mr. Massey succeeded Sir Charles Trevelyan, and as he found it impossible to make the two ends meet he had recourse to a License tax with a high minimum for assessment. This tax he afterwards converted into a Certificate Tax. But he candidly confessed that the problem of taxation was very difficult in India, and that no scheme of direct taxation would answer here. Next came Sir Richard Temple. Lord Lawrence was then the Governor General of India, and Sir John Strachey, though not a member of the Cabinet, was, it was well-known, his Lordship's chief adviser. The Punjab element was then in the ascendant, and Sir John did his best to instill into Lord Lawrence his doctrinaire views of direct taxation, but his Lordship hesitated to reimpose the Income tax. In the whirligig of time Lord Mayo came; Sir John Strachey was now a member of the cabinet and managed to have his ears; within a short time the Income tax was re-imposed: in the meantime Sir Richard Temple took leave, and Sir John, who was in charge of the exchequer, demonstrated his power in the cabinet by raising the Income tax to Rs. 3-2 per cent. The whole country rang with a universal chorus of dissatisfaction and indignation. It was even feared that if the Government persisted in its self-willed policy of taxation, it might lead to serious results. Lord Mayo perceived his error, and the next year his Lordship lowered the rate of the income tax, at the same time recording an emphatic minute to the effect that direct taxation might prove a source of political danger, and that the Government should therefore avoid that dangerous game. Next came Lord Northbrook. Himself a financier of high authority and with fixed

ideas as to his duties in the administration of India, his Lordship immediately on arrival set on foot an enquiry into the comparative merits of direct and indirect taxation in this country. The consensus of opinion was against direct taxation, and his Lordship did not hesitate to abolish the Income tax to the great satisfaction of the people. Sir William Muir, his Finance Minister, heartily seconded his Lordship in his taxation policy. But Sir John Strachey has again become a member of the Cabinet, and taken charge of the exchequer. His idea has always been in favour of direct taxation, and he did not lose time in undoing the work of the past administration. The first step he took was the imposition of a Public Works Cess upon the landed classes in Bengal and a License tax upon traders and artisans in the North-Western Provinces for famine purposes. The next year he introduced a general license tax, and this year he proposes to convert it into an Income tax upon trades, professions and salaried servants.

Such is the history of direct taxation in this country. Over and over has it been tried and as often has it proved a failure. Still Sir John Strachey persists in it. In theory it cannot be denied that there is more justice in a direct Income tax than in any indirect tax. But India cannot be governed on mere abstract ideas. What have been the practical results of direct taxation? As often as it has been tried, it has been found to be productive of serious hardship and oppression. It may be said that once it has been set a-going, it ceases to be oppressive. But we deny this proposition. It is true that the first assessment is the most difficult; but the revision must be made annually in order to rectify errors and to adjust inequalities, and consequently a door is kept open to perpetual annoyance and extortion. Take for instance the second year of Sir John Strachey's License tax. Are not complaints again rife about arbitrary and capricious assessment and illegal extortion? The truth is the people of this country are so helpless that they cannot resist freaks of power, while the administrative agency is so constituted that authority, however brief, necessarily leads to abuse. The petty tyranny of petty officials is practically beyond control. The most active, vigilant, and conscientious officer cannot with all his efforts always keep his underlings straight. The consequence is that the poor tax-payer has to pay two annas as illegal cess for one anna of the legal tax. The higher officers admit this. The reports of the local Governments afford conclusive evidence on this point. When such is the case, is it not hopeless to prevent the evils, which flow from a direct tax in this country? Besides, the country is so poor that the financial result of a direct tax by no means compensates the evils which it brings in its train. Hence all experienced and thoughtful Indian statesmen have pronounced themselves against the imposition of a direct tax upon this country. It is strange that after the authoritative condemnation of direct taxation by Lord Northbrook's Government his successor should have sanctioned its revival. Is there to be no continuity in the policy of Government? Is the country to have no rest from the feverish excitement of legislative innovations?

Consider for a moment the wisdom of the financial policy of Sir John Strachey. He has deliberately sacrificed 85 lacs of rupees annually by surrendering indirect taxation, and he proposes to recoup himself by an odious and oppressive direct tax, which he calculates will yield 80 lacs of rupees! The reduction of the salt duty, which, as we shewed in a recent issue, has not in the least benefited the poor consumers in India, but has simply replenished the pockets of the Cheshire manufacturers, has led to a loss of 60 lacs of rupees annually, while the remission of the cotton duties has sacrificed 25 lacs of rupees. Thus a revenue of eighty-five lacs, the pressure of which no one felt, is gone, and a huge engine of oppression has been set up for the sake of making good the loss. Such is the wisdom of the men, to whom our destinies have been committed!

THE LICENSE TAX IN BENGAL.

THE Resolution of the Lieutenant-Governor on the administration of the License Tax in Bengal, though it does not make a full disclosure of the iniquities of the tax, still makes sufficient revelations to convince the unprejudiced public that a direct tax is not suited to the circumstances of the people of this country. In the first place His Honor says that the accounts of the tax are "fallacious," because "it was found necessary, for convenience of account, when an assessee was reduced on objection from one class to another, to show him first as assessed under the higher class, then to show the whole of that amount as remitted, and a fresh assessment as made in a lower class. This necessarily leads to the same assessee being shown twice over, and to gross instead of net remissions being exhibited." But how does His Honor account for the other fallacy viz., that while the figures of the Board of Revenue give the realizations, including fines, at Rs. 27,52,469, those of the Accountant General give the same at Rs. 20,19,027, shewing a difference of more than seven lacs of rupees? We dare say that this huge disparity will be "adjusted" hereafter, but we submit that of late disparities of this kind between the figures of the Board and the Accountant General have become rather frequent. But let that pass. We now come to the administration of the tax. His Honor admits that "some cases have no doubt been brought to light in which the circle officers, as the newly-created assessors were called, have abused their powers, and others in which they have displayed great want of judgment, but at the same time considers that, as a body, considering the onerous nature of the work entrusted to them, its novelty, and the unpopularity necessarily inherent in their office, they have discharged their difficult duty with success and credit." If this is mere official palaver, we do not object to it, but as the certificate given will be construed literally, we must say that the premises does not support the conclusion. We do not blame the circle officers. The pay given to them, the temptations thrown in their way, and the pressure generally put by the Collectors upon them to shew a good money return, necessarily led to force, fraud, abuse of power and oppression. These evils are inseparable from a direct tax, and no measure, which the executive Government might have taken, would have remedied them. Just consider the nature of the work, which the circle officers had. On an average each circle officer had a population of about 230,000 persons, living in about 680 villages, as the ground-work of his enquiry. The number of villages visited by these officers is shown as 154,634, which gives an average of about 590 a head; and the average number of assessments made, including double assessment, was 3,170. How could the circle officer with such an immense charge be expected to perform his duties in strict accordance with the provisions of the law or equity. Although perhaps the Lieutenant Governor does not mean it, his remarks which we quote below cut both ways. A direct tax is objectionable because it is apt to be inquisitorial and where the inquisitorial process is abandoned, the assessment becomes hypothetical, and necessarily becomes fruitful of annoyance, irritation, and oppression. His Honor says: "The tax was to be essentially non-inquisitorial, i.e., the circle officers were to make a hypothetical assessment, and persons complaining were to prove the grounds of their complaint. Since enquiry was not to be made before assessing, and in no other way could either speed be secured or inquisition avoided, it was a foregone certainty that objections must be numerous, and many of them justifiable, in other words, the assessments were essentially tentative, to be corrected by objections. The total number of objections preferred was 277,681, or 33 percent. on the aggregate of assesseees, 840,567." But the objections preferred do not represent the real amount of dissatisfaction which prevailed among the assesseees. There was great inequality in assessment. Thus, of 277,681 objections, 141,613 were disallowed, 131,089 wholly or partly allowed, and 4,979 were pending at the close of the year. In Manbhoom only 1 in 239 was assessed; but in the adjacent and poorer district of Singbhoon, 1 in 22; in Sarun, 1 in 171;

in Maldah, 1 in 31; in the Patna Division, as a whole, 1 in 112; in the Bhagulpore Division, 1 in 67; in Bogra, 1 in 169; in Rungpore, 1 in 58. Similar inequality is manifest in dealing with the objections that were preferred and the amounts eventually collected. In Beerbhoom the assessments were about the average, and the percentage of objections small—18.6 per cent. But of these 1,442 were altogether disallowed, and only 315 partially or wholly successful. In Midnapore, on the contrary, where the Board consider that the Act was very well supervised, the objections were 22.3 per cent., and 6,023 were successful, against 3,761 unsuccessful. In Hooghly the objections were very numerous—38.3 per cent.; and yet 11,288 were allowed, against only 3,643 rejected. In Patna, as remarked below, the results were still more unequal, while in Singbloom, again, where the assessments were so numerous, only 14.6 per cent. objected, and 1,368 were unsuccessful, against 740 successful. While oppression was inevitable from a direct tax, the greed of the fiscal authorities for revenue tended only to aggravate the evil. The Collectors, who acted with moderation and justice, were accused of undue leniency. Mr. Toynbee is censured in the Government Resolution before us in the following terms: "Mr. Toynbee, the Officiating Collector, evidently considers that the assessments were very badly made, and that it was owing to the thorough and searching inquiry made by him in hearing objections that such wholesale remissions had to be given. The Board remark that, in that case, Mr. Toynbee ought to have found out the mistakes that were being made at an earlier period, and that, in either case, he is responsible for the bad results. It appears that Mr. Toynbee took great pains to do justice to objectors, hearing a very large number of objections himself, and evidently allowing much weight to pleas for exemption. Still Sir Stuart Bayley cannot but consider the ultimate result as eminently unsatisfactory." The reader is aware how strongly we condemned Mr. Toynbee the other day for his scandalous conduct in the Gilbert case of Dinapore, but at the same time we must do him the justice to say that the censure passed upon him for his License tax work is quite undeserved. We cannot follow the logic of the Board that if Mr. Toynbee rectified mistakes in assessment, he ought to have found the mistakes earlier. But how could he have done so? The theory of the law is that there should be no inquisitorial enquiry in the first instance, and the arbitrary assessments of the circle officers could not be discovered until objections were actually made by the assesses. So it was not Mr. Toynbee's fault that he had not the prescience to anticipate these objections. As for the remark of the Lieutenant Governor that the trade of the City of Patna is far larger than that of Serajunge or of any other city or mart in Bengal, except Calcutta, and that therefore it ought to have yielded a higher out-turn, it is observable that the mere existence of trade does not carry profit and that of late although trade as far as it goes is flourishing, the returns are decidedly languishing. And this may partially account for comparatively small outturn in Patna. The Lieutenant Governor remarks that the administration of the Licence tax in Calcutta shows a desire to screen the responsible officials and to throw the blame upon the Municipal Commissioners. After discussing the causes of the gross disparity between total demand and actual realizations, His Honor says:

Be this as it may, however, it is admitted that the assessments were also carelessly done; but, before finding fault with the late Chairman on this account, it must be remembered that he was left alone to bear the burden of supervision by himself. The Commissioners, whose aid was invited by him, rendered very valuable and praiseworthy assistance in hearing appeals; but they declined to assist the Chairman in revising the assessments, on account of the invidious character of the duties, and because the position of both assessors and judges in appeal would be anomalous. The Lieutenant-Governor concurs with the Board in the opinion that this decision is to be regretted, and that the local knowledge, which the law expressly intended to be available in making assessments in municipalities, was thereby lost. The result was that the entire work of supervision was thrown upon the Chairman, who, being at the same time Commissioner of Police, had clearly no leisure to discharge the duty satisfactorily.

Now, what does His Honor mean in the above extract? Does he really mean that the Commissioners should have acted both the executive and appellate authority in the same person? The two func-

tions are totally incompatible with each other, and their union could not but lead to grave injustice and oppression. On this point the Municipal Commissioners make the following remarks in their last Administration Report:

Under Act I. of 1873, the administration of the Bengal License Tax in Calcutta was delegated to the Chairman of the Corporation. According to the provisions of the law the Commissioners had no voice in the practical working of it. Section 34 of the Bengal License Tax Act declares that "the provisions of Sections 10 (Collector to prepare annual list of licenses) 11 (Collector's power to call for list of persons in any house) 12 (Collector's power to determine class under which license is to be charged) 13 (regarding persons carrying on several trades) 14 (Collector's power to remit fee) 15 (regarding publication of list and notification) 16 (how the Collector may levy fees on artisans and others in large works) 17 (Collector to receive petitions of objection) 20 (Collector's power to summon witnesses &c.) 21 (Collector's power to impose penalty for carrying on business without a license) 23 (regarding limitation) 24 (Collector empowered to require production of license) 25 (courts of wards receivers and managers chargeable) and 26 (power to trustee &c. to retain money for payment of fee) shall be in force in the Town of Calcutta and all the powers of a Collector under the said Sections shall be exercised by the Chairman of the Commissioners or by some persons authorized by him in that behalf." It was thus the intention of the legislature that the Chairman of the Commissioners shall exercise all powers in the assessment and collection of the tax. As for dealing with petitions of objection Section 35 directs that "the Chairman may either himself dispose of them or may refer them for disposal to a bench of not less than three Commissioners." The Commissioners were under Section 33 charged with the levy of the fees and the payment to the local Government annually of a sum to be fixed by such Government and calculated on the proceeds of such fees." The practical working of the tax was thus left entirely to the Chairman, and the responsibility of the Commissioners extended to the levy of the fees and the payment of the same to Government.

The position assigned to the Commissioners in respect of this tax was necessarily anomalous; they could not interfere under the law with the executive work of the Chairman but they were required to lend the services of their establishment exclusive of any special establishment for the administration of the tax. The Commissioners derived no pecuniary benefit from the tax, but had to take the full share of the odium whatever it was of working an admittedly unpopular impost. The segregation of the responsibilities of the Chairman and the Commissioners in this matter could not but be regretted though the Chairman having had to advance money out of the Municipal fund to meet current charges was obliged to take the sanction of the Commissioners to the establishment entertained by him. The Commissioners were always willing to assist the Chairman with advice and suggestions whenever he sought them. As the machinery for the administration of the tax was now the late Chairman invited the commissioners to co-operate with him in assisting in the assessment of the tax but they could not undertake this work inasmuch as they could not consistently perform the functions of assessor and appellate authority at the same time. Besides they felt that they could not render effectual assistance in the work of assessment without having a special establishment under each of them which would have not only entailed a large expenditure but interfered with the regular assessing agency. They therefore held that the only form in which they could aid the Chairman in the assessment of the tax was on the bench of appeal, and, as many of them as could make time took their turn of sitting on the bench. The bench of appeals held 102 sittings and disposed of 2,375 petitions of objections. The Commissioners lent freely the services of their officers and establishment though not without great inconvenience and detriment to the regular work of the Office. The Chairman devoted it is believed by far the greater portion of his office hours for the greater part of the year to the work of the license-tax, similarly the Vice-Chairman the Secretary and the Collector the Treasurer and the Superintendent of the Warrant Department were required to give a considerable portion of their time to the superintendence and collection of the tax. However willing the commissioners may be to assist the Government in any imperial undertaking in which their aid and co-operation may be invited they cannot refrain from observing that the first year's working of the license tax shows clearly that the present arrangement for the assessment and collection of the tax through the Municipal agency cannot continue without serious detriment to the legitimate work of the corporation.

The commissioners do not desire to comment on the administration of the tax. Many and loud were the complaints against the assessment and collection and although the law gave them no power to redress wrong except when cases were laid before them as benches of appeal several of their body to whose notice complaints were brought by individual assesses took the trouble to investigate those cases in an unofficial way and laid the results of their investigations before the chairman who generally afforded prompt redress. The commissioners are well aware that the odium which has fallen upon them in connection with the administration of this tax though neither legally nor practically were they responsible for it was inseparable from the unpopular character of the tax but they consider it due to the present chairman to say that he has done his best to prevent abuse and oppression.

It will be thus seen that the Legislature had studiously kept the Commissioners out in the administration of the tax, but as the work was done badly by the executive, the Board and the Government turn round and blame the Commissioners! Is this consistent, fair, or just?

And lastly the Lieutenant-Governor thus concludes:

The opinion is universal that the license tax was very unpopular because it was a direct tax, and all direct taxes must be unpopular; but that it would have been less so had its incidence on all classes been more equal, and had the assessments been more carefully made. On the other hand, the Commissioners of Patna, Dacca, and Chittagong, while admitting the unpopularity of the tax, seem to think that it

did not give rise to so many complaints as might have been expected. The Board point out that the recent orders exempting all persons with incomes of less than Rs. 250 per annum will remove much of the disgust with which the Act was received, and also express an opinion that, "as a rule, the tax was imposed generally with sufficient leniency and consideration to prevent any real ground for complaint of gross unfairness or oppression."

We cannot subscribe to the opinion that the exemption of incomes below Rs. 250, though in itself a commendable move, will much mitigate the oppressions of a direct tax like the License-Income tax, or that it was administered in Bengal with "sufficient leniency and consideration."

THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN IN ENGLAND.

BOTH the Conservatives and Liberals have commenced the electoral campaign in right earnest. The most important demonstration took place in Manchester. The Conservatives first took possession of the ground. No less a personage than Lord Salisbury headed the campaign there. The only sop, which the astute Foreign Minister could offer to Manchester, was poor India. Manchester wanted the recognition of free trade principles throughout the civilized world, but Lord Salisbury told her that there was no hope for her in Europe, America or in the British colony of Canada. But she might look for the full realization of her wishes in India, for there the domination of England was absolute. The millions of India were entirely at the mercy of Her Majesty's Government, and they could do anything with them they might like. Could anything be more immoral and more audacious than the attitude of Lord Salisbury with regard to India? But though his Lordship may sacrifice India, and Manchester will doubtless accept the bribe, the result we fear will not be much to the advantage of the Ministry. The ovations which Manchester gave to Lord Hartington and Mr. Bright shew that her heart is with the Liberals. The following Resolution was passed at the great Manchester Meeting which Lord Hartington and Mr. Bright addressed:

"That this meeting is of opinion that the present Government deserves the severest condemnation for its neglect of necessary domestic legislation (hear, hear), for the arrogant pretensions, duplicity, and incompetence (cheers) of its foreign policy for its studied evasion of Parliamentary counsel and control, and for a financial cowardice which has sought refuge in debt from the burdens of its extravagance. And this meeting resolves to do its utmost to redeem the honour and repair the interests of the country by returning to Parliament at the next general election men who will keep the peace, practise economy, and promote wise reforms; and this meeting gratefully recognizes in the presence this day of the Right Hon. the Marquis of Hartington (cheers) and the Right Hon. John Bright (cheers) a promise of many future Liberal triumphs (hear) and a memento of services which will fill a brilliant page in the history of the country." (Cheers)

What would our Government have said or done, if such a Resolution had been passed in India, and every word of that Resolution applies with equal force to the present Government in India. But let that pass. We have not space for a full notice of the great speeches delivered by Lord Hartington and Mr. Bright at Manchester. The Marquis of Hartington rose to the height of the argument and spoke well and effectively. We can make room for only one extract, which has reference to India. His Lordship thus spoke about the Afghan war:

Well, gentlemen, it is impossible not to admire the boldness of the defence which Lord Salisbury made of the policy of the Government in Afghanistan. It had only just failed in every particular. (Laughter.) Every statement which the Government had made either in their boasting despatches or their speeches had been absolutely and signally falsified; but Lord Salisbury retracts nothing. He takes the opportunity of coming forward and making a new charge against a late Governor-General of India—against whom that charge, at all events, had never been brought forward. Everything would have been right, says Lord Salisbury, if Lord Northbrook had complied with our instructions, but the unfortunate delay ruined everything. Lord Salisbury seems to forget that in the objection which Lord Northbrook took to the execution of his orders he was supported by every member of his own Government and I believe by the Council of the Government of India. Lord Salisbury forgets that the policy which was afterwards carried into effect by Lord Lytton was initiated at home, was hatched and commenced by Lord Lytton without the advice of any of his advisers and contrary as we know, to the opinions of many of them. It has on former occasions been the custom of an English Minister to shield subordinate officers of the Government when they have made mistakes, and to take the responsibility upon themselves. It has been reserved for this Government to reverse this practice and to throw upon the subordinate the responsibility and the blame for mistakes which they have themselves committed. (Cheers and laughter.) I do not think that it is possible to treat a distinguished public servant in a more ungenerous manner than this. I do not think that any body can wish that the

Governor-General of India should be reduced to the rank of a mere puppet to register the decrees of a Government which has many other matters to attend to at home; but certainly, if Lord Salisbury's opinions are justified the Governor-General in India will be degraded to that position and you may look in vain for men of independent character and ability to undertake such a position. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Bright made a stirring and ringing speech. It was one of his best efforts. As usual he did not mince matters. He thus painted the so-called popularity of the present Government. "There were criminals at head-quarters (loud cheers), and there were fools and imbeciles among the people (laughter and cheers), and there was baseness enough among the proprietors and the writers of some newspapers (loud cheers)—there was all this to give, for a time, a semblance of popularity to madness and to a guilt such as I have described. (Hear, hear.)" We give the following as a specimen of the earnestness and emphasis with which Mr. Bright spoke:

We have heard lately a great deal of "Imperial policy," and of a "great empire." These are phrases which catch the ignorant and unwary. (Hear, hear.) Since this Government came into office your great empire—upon the map—has grown much greater. They have annexed the islands of Fiji (laughter); they have annexed also the country of the Transvaal in South Africa which is said to be as large as France. They have practically annexed the land of the Zulus also in South Africa and they have practically annexed—for it is now utterly disorganized and they seem to be left alone to repair, if it is possible the mischief they have made—they have practically annexed Afghanistan. They have added also to your dominions the island of Cyprus in the Mediterranean (much laughter,) and they have incurred enormous incalculable responsibilities in Egypt and in Asia Minor. All these add to the burdens not of the empire—just listen to this—they add to the burdens not of the empire in Canada or Australia—all these colonies have nothing to do as a rule with these things—they add to the burdens not of the empire, but of the 34,000,000 people who inhabit Great Britain and Ireland. We make the burden and we pay the charge. This policy may lend a seeming glory to the Crown, and may give scope for patronage and promotion and pay and pensions to a limited and a favored class but to you the people it brings expenditure of blood and treasure increased debt and taxes and added risks of war in every quarter of the globe. Look on our position for one moment. You have to meet the competition of other countries; your own race on the American continent are your foremost rivals. Nobody denies that I believe. There are 50,000,000 now and happily for them they have not yet bred a Beaconsfield or a Salisbury (laughter and cheers) to misdirect their policy and to waste their resources. (Loud cheers.) If at some distant period it may be centuries remote an Englishman—one of that great English nation which is now so rapidly peopling the American continent—if such an Englishman should visit and explore sources of his race and the decayed and ruined home of his fathers he may exclaim "How are the mighty fallen! whence comes this great ruin?" and the answer will be that in the councils of the England of the past—I pray that it may not be said in the days of the virtuous Queen—wisdom and justice were scorned and ignorance and passion and vain glory directed her policy and wielded her power. (Loud and prolonged cheers.)

We next turn to Mr. Fawcett's address at Hackney. The sightless champion of India as usual gave a just prominence to his Asiatic charge in his speech. While he condemned in unequivocal terms the policy of the Afghan war, he plainly said he would not reverse it by withdrawing from Afghanistan altogether. He said: "We should be fairly charged with something worse than meanness if, regardless of every consideration except that which was supposed to promote our own interests, we now left the Afghan people to extricate themselves in the best way they could from the difficulties of a situation which we had ourselves created. (Hear, hear.)" But he spoke most strongly and earnestly on the payment of the cost of the Afghan war. He said:

It would really seem as if what is called Imperial statemanship will not condescend to concern itself with such vulgar considerations as pounds, shillings, and pence; but we shall be guilty of the most reckless folly, we shall with unerring certainty bring upon India the gravest misfortune, if, in the present straitened condition of Indian finance, we do not insist that a policy shall be pursued in that country which, by leading to increased expenditure, will render it necessary to burden her people with a still heavier load of taxation than that which they now have to bear. (Cheers.) In our own country we know—and many probably in this room could appeal to their own experience in proof of the fact—that an increase of taxation means a still more severe struggle for many who now find it hard enough to procure the means of living; but the suffering, great though it may be, which augmented taxation may bring upon the English people, is after all but dust in the balance compared with the unutterable woe which would be caused to millions in India if the tax-gatherer should have to make still heavier drafts upon the scanty earnings of those who toil week after week and year after year for wages of 3d. a day. (Hear, hear.) With regard to the expenditure of the revenues of India, an obligation is imposed upon the present Government such as has been imposed upon none of their predecessors. It is only within the last year or two that the gravity of the financial situation in India has been fully seen and acknowledged. It has at last been declared, on the highest official authority, that the limits of practicable taxation have been reached in India, and it has consequently been declared, on behalf both of the Secretary of State and the Viceroy, that the balance between revenue and expenditure must be restored, not by the imposition of new taxation, but by "a large reduction of expenditure." Bearing these facts in mind, I think it will scarcely be necessary for me to

say another word to show you what a controlling influence financial considerations should have in determining our future policy in Afghanistan. There is the widest possible difference of opinion among military authorities as to the particular frontier which would be the best. Although there is this difference of opinion as to the advantages and disadvantages of any particular frontier that may be selected, there is absolutely no difference of opinion whatever as to the perils which will be brought upon India by sanctioning an increase of expenditure. (Hear, hear.) The danger may, of course, be temporarily averted by borrowing but the day of reckoning must come. Increased borrowing means an increased charge for interest, which will have sooner or later to be met by increased taxation. There is no one who has the smallest right to speak with authority on the subject who will gainsay the certainty of the political danger of imposing increased taxation in India. (Hear, hear.) In our own country, if an emergency arose and it became necessary to obtain an additional revenue of seven millions a year, we all know, although much inconvenience would be caused to the people the money required could be obtained by an addition to the Income-tax, and by an increase in the duty imposed upon some article of general consumption. In India, however, so extreme are her financial straits, and so nearly have the means of practicable taxation been exhausted, that when the Government not long since desired to raise £750,000 to provide relief for famine, they were driven to the perilous expedient of levying an income-tax of 51. in the pound from every petty trader and every poor handiworkman, although his entire earnings were only 4s. a week. If another 750,000 is required—and this would scarcely support a campaign for a few weeks—what will then be the position of the Indian Government? By their own showing they have no better tax to impose than the licence tax, or they would have imposed it when they raised the fund for famine relief. An additional expenditure comparatively so small as £750,000 may render it necessary to double the present licence tax, or to make it reach those who are earning only 2s. a week. In the presence of such facts as these, it is obvious that before deciding upon any particular frontier the cost of maintaining it should be ascertained with the greatest possible accuracy. (Cheers.) The English people have a right to demand this, not only in the interest of the Indian people, but in their own interest as English taxpayers. If money is expended, some one will have to provide it, and if India cannot, England must. The English people by their own free choice placed in power the authors of the Afghan war; the unrepresented people of India have no voice in deciding to whom the government of their country shall be intrusted. It has been again and again stated by responsible Ministers that our course of action in Afghanistan did not depend simply upon consideration affecting India, but was part of great imperial policy. Thus you probably have not forgotten the enthusiasm with which the statement of Lord Beaconsfield was received that one object of the Afghan war was to "maintain the influence and character of England in Europe." Lord Salisbury in his late speech at Manchester was elaborately careful to treat the question of Afghanistan as a part of the general Eastern question. But if the policy which England was pursuing in Eastern Europe led to hostilities in Afghanistan, if this was the field that was chosen on which to maintain the influence and character of England in Europe, can there be any thing more indefensible than to throw the entire cost of the contest upon the people of India? (Hear, hear.) Such a proceeding would not only be inequitable, but I believe it can be shown to be illegal.

We have given Mr. Fawcett's words *in extenso*, because we are sure they will be read with the liveliest interest throughout India. No Indian could have pleaded his country's cause so ably, so eloquently and so powerfully as Mr. Fawcett did. To the reasonableness and cogency of his arguments we believe there could be no just demur from even the most hot-headed partizan of Government. When the vote on the cost of the Afghan war was passed last session, it was understood that the question would be reconsidered hereafter. That question has undergone a new phase since the change of circumstances in Afghanistan. There are two points to be settled, 1stly, whether India should be now called upon to pay the whole cost of the war, and 2ndly, whether if Afghanistan should be occupied, India alone should be required to bear the cost of occupation and maintenance. Should India in equity be saddled with these heavy charges, and is she with her impoverished exchequer in a position to bear them? Mr. Fawcett has conclusively answered these questions, and we hope his speech will be made the text of an united petition to Parliament on the subject.

THE TRADE OF BENGAL IN 1878-79.

THE two most noticeable facts in the report of the customs administration for last year are (1) the decrease in the import duties owing to the reduction of duty on cotton goods and salt and (2) the diminution of the value of imported goods on account of Government stores. There was a decrease of Rs. 51,78,252 in both import and export duties as compared with the same of last year. Of this sum Rs. 54,563 was the difference of the export duty, and the large balance of Rs. 51,23,689 was that of the import duty, which includes Rs. 32,64,874 lost in consequence of reduction in salt duty, and the greater portion of the remaining decrease was owing to the remission of the

cotton duties. The next fact which is a matter for congratulation is the diminished quantity of foreign goods imported for state purposes. In 1874-75 the value of Government stores imported was more than 64½ lakhs; in 1875-76 it fell to less than 55½ lakhs; in 1876-77 it rose to nearly 64½ lakhs; in 1877-78 it again fell to about 44½ lakhs, and in 1878-79 it dwindled to little over 24 lakhs. The items in which these reductions have taken place are boots and shoes, ale, beer and porter, woollen piece-goods, metals, railway locomotives and instruments. Most of the first two articles were obtained from country producers, and the decrease in the latter was owing to supplies having been obtained locally. This policy if persisted in cannot but prove doubly beneficial. It will foster local industry and enterprise, and lead to a reduction of public expenditure.

The gross value of the trade of the Presidency during the year of report was a little above 58 crores, and sixty laks, or nearly 16½ crores less than that of the preceding year. One cause of this decline is the cessation of the large demand for food-grains in Southern India, but there was also a decrease in the imports, in coal, cotton twist and yarn, piece goods, metals, malt liquors, spirits and wines. Indian raw cotton, we are glad to notice, received a considerable impetus last year. In 1877-78 trade was injuriously affected by the large crop in America, the failure of the crop in the North Western Provinces and the famine in China. During the past year the large crop in India induced low prices and the export to the United Kingdom alone rose from 23,068 cwts. to 173,157 cwts. The exports to Australia amounted to 19,355 cwts. while the trade with China was more than doubled. It is to be hoped that this activity will continue. In the other staples which we supply to other countries, in rice, wheat, hides, indigo, jute, gunny bags, oil seeds, raw silk, sugar, tea, tobacco, there was more or less decline in some one or other. To take a more detailed view of these exports. In dying and colouring materials indigo holds the first place, but owing to the short crop of 1878-79 and the unusually large supply of the year preceding the exports fell to one-fourth less than the same of 1877-78, and they were also lesser than those of the preceding two years 1875-76 and 1876-77. The other dyeing materials, myrabolams, safflower, and turmeric, hold very inconsiderable places in our export list, but the first was a new demand and it is steadily increasing. From 6,892 cwts. in 1874-76, it had risen to 105,113 cwts in 1877-78, but last year it fell to 23,288 cwts. The demand for safflower is steadily diminishing, and it is feared that the trade in this staple will in course of time die out; last year what we supplied was greater than that of 1877-78 and 1875-76. Turmeric like myrabolam is also a new demand for dyeing purposes and its want we notice is yearly increasing. Last year the exports of this article rose to the highest figure within the last five years. In 1874-75 the quantity taken was only 9167 cwts., last year it rose to 137,925 cwts. Rice and paddy hold an important place in our list of export staples, and the progress of foreign demand for it we watch with interest. There has been no decrease in this trade, though the increase was very inappreciable. But it has found new markets in Natal and Reunion, which received supplies direct last year. The growing trade in wheat has received a check, and the fall last year is calculated at 80 per cent. This was owing to scanty produce, hot competition with America, large earlier exports, and the opening of the Black Sea ports after the cessation of the Russo-Turkish war. In raw hides there is an increase in exports to the extent of about 15 per cent. with a concurrent fall in prices and values. Jute and its manufactures maintain their place and their exports are increasing. Owing to large shipments of past years and adulteration in its manufacture the demand for shell-lac has considerably slackened and the exports have therefore declined. The exports in saltpetre continue at a steady level, its exports during the last two years had slightly fallen, but in this year it has received a fresh impulse, and there has sprung up a brisk demand owing to increased consumption in America and France. The trade in oil-seeds is very unstable, the most important of the seeds for which there was an active demand

was linseed, but its demand depends upon its scarcity in the nearer markets, and when they are full as they were last year owing to the opening of the Baltic Ports, the demand for the Indian produce slackens. Rape seed continues its usual pace, as also teel seed, but poppy has declined and the cause cannot be easily accounted for. The exports in raw silk show a decline as compared with those of 1877-78, but this is one of those articles the demand for which rises as the nearer markets fail, and the competitor in this case is Italy. There were, however, other causes which had a depressing effect upon Asiatic silk. Though there was a fall in the exports of raw silk, there was a marked improvement in silk-piece-goods, and the same cannot be satisfactorily explained unless it be owing to speculative shipments in consequence of low prices. In sugar the exports have very markedly fallen. In 1874-75 they were 106,469 cwts., in 1875-76 83,865 cwts., in 1876-77, 637,090 cwts., in 1877-78 442,364 cwts., and in 1878-79, 41,269 only. This decline was owing to short produce and the quantity in stock being fully equal to local consumption and the prices offered for local consumption have command of the market. Tea is now our most important rising industry, and its demand for foreign consumption is steadily rising. As it improves in quality it will extend its market and it has been remarked that, there seems little limit to the demand for Indian tea of good quality at satisfactory prices. As regards its demand in the foreign markets, the Collector of Customs, Calcutta observes: "It is satisfactory to notice that, while there is little or no variation in the export to United Kingdom, the exports to other markets have more than doubled, shewing that India is gaining favor elsewhere to a very remarkable degree." Indian tobacco is struggling to gain a footing in foreign markets, but its defective curing and inferior quality make it doubtful of success in competition with the products of other countries. But local consumption has so greatly increased that little remains for export.

NATIVE INVESTMENTS.

One of the official notes recently supplied to the Press relates to the question of Native investments. We gave it in a previous issue and need not reproduce it here.

This is not the first time that this important question has been raised. It may be remembered that shortly before his departure for India the Manchester Chamber of Commerce waited upon Lord Lytton with an address. In that document the attention of the new Viceroy was drawn to the fact that the people of India had not acquired "sufficient confidence in the British Government to engage in investments with the savings which they now timidly kept hidden." His Lordship in reply to the address of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce delivered himself on this subject in the following words:

Mr. Cheetham and Mr. Bazley both alluded to a consideration which, I confess, has very much occupied and interested me, and that is the possibility of encouraging Native investments. I have very much considered the results of the loans by small subscriptions in France. France has to deal with a similar state of things as in India. You have in France a peasant proprietor, more independent, more thriving, and, perhaps, more industrious; but up to a recent period their savings were buried and were so much dead capital. By these small subscriptions the capital has been mobilized and has enormously increased the wealth of France. I have no doubt we have a similar situation in India, and I think it is one to be very much studied."

It will thus be seen that before the commencement of his Indian career the present Viceroy was convinced of the practicability of encouraging Native investments. His Excellency must have spent three-and-a-half years here in vain, if he still thinks there is an analogy between the state of things in France and in this country in reference to the investment of the savings of the people. As a matter of fact, the agricultural classes in many parts of the country have no resources beyond the current harvest, and their material condition differs widely from that of the peasant proprietors in France. So far from having any savings to be hidden under the ground, the vast majority of the cultivators in every part of the country with the exception of Eastern, Central and Northern Bengal, are hopelessly involved in debt. Even in good seasons the Indian cultivator, generally speaking, can with difficulty

get two meals a day; and when a failure of crops occurs his miseries know no bounds. They must then rely on borrowing at exorbitant interest to pay the Government assessment and keep his body and soul together. Between such wretched people and the peasant proprietors of France there is vast difference. As regards the labouring classes, their lot, as Sir Richard Temple remarked in one of his Bengal administration reports, is as hard as it can be borne. They can with great difficulty get one meal a day; and in considering the question of Native investments their case must be dismissed altogether. Then, it has been clearly shown of late that the condition of the middle classes has been becoming worse every day. These people find it almost impossible "to keep up appearances" in these hard times, with their fixed and scanty incomes. From the famine prices which have been prevailing since the past three years none have suffered more severely than the middle classes. Their present condition is, indeed, pitiable, and they are not the people to have any large savings to invest. The bulk of the Indian population—the labouring classes, the agricultural classes—cannot then save much money to be hidden under the ground. And it must not be forgotten that there is now no necessity to bury valuables in this country. This practice was, no doubt, frequently resorted to in the days of Maharatta marauders and Pindaree freebooters; but those days, thanks to the peace and security of life and property established under the strong arm of our present rulers, have disappeared, never, we believe, to come back. Again, all classes of people in this country, if they have any savings, first invest them in jewellery. Woman's taste for jewellery in all ages and countries is well known, and cannot be easily changed. This mode of investment may be condemned, because it does not bring any return, but then it must be borne in mind that it not merely satisfies the vanity of the women folk of one's household, but that at time of need the jewels are readily convertible into cash. Nothing is easier in this country than to raise a loan on the pawn of jewellery. The fact is that when one has small savings he invests them in jewellery to be converted into cash when necessary; and when larger savings have been accumulated they are invested in land. The people of this country attach very great importance to land, and a man who does not possess it in some shape or other is looked down upon. The possession of land carries an amount of social prestige, which is greatly valued.

Those who talk of inducing the masses in this country to invest their savings in Government securities of some description do not know the actual state of things they have to deal with. Every man in India, as Sir George Campbell pointed out in his famous first Bengal administration report, is either a lender or borrower of money. No difficulty is experienced in making profitable investments of capital on unexceptionable security. The prevailing high rates of interest show the want of much capital in India. Small amounts cannot be borrowed at a lower rate of interest than half anna per rupee per mensem or $37\frac{1}{2}$ per cent per annum. This high rate is generally doubled in times of pressure when rent and revenue instalments fall due. Investment in Government securities cannot bring an equally good return. The highest rate the State can afford to pay is 5 or 6 per cent.; and the masses will simply laugh at the idea of remaining content with such low interest. The collapse of Sir John Strachey's policy of raising local loans for local works of utility ought to open the eyes of Government to the impracticability of inducing Indian capitalists to place their surplus money at the disposal of the State. True, the Local Government succeeded in raising a capital of about three lakhs of rupees for the Muttra-Hathras Railway, on the guarantee of four per cent.; but then that sum was raised through the exercise of undue official pressure, and, moreover, more than half the amount obtained was contributed by one individual, the celebrated millionaire Seth of Muttra. The attempt to raise 35 lakhs of rupees for the Cawnpore-Farakabad Railway signally failed even in spite of the exercise of a large amount of official pressure. The truth is, as we pointed out in these columns some time ago, that so long as there is

prospect of investing money on more profitable terms—and there is unlimited field for such investment in India—our countrymen cannot be expected to place their savings in the hands of Government, in the hope obtaining 4, 5, or at best 6 per cent per annum. This is as clear as the most elementary proposition. The idea of inducing the masses to invest their savings in Government securities of some description is therefore preposterous. In the first place, the masses have, as a rule, no savings to invest; and in the second, if they have any, they would as a matter of course prefer to lend their money at $37\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum on the security of jewellery or land, which is sure to pay more than Government stock.

MR. JAMES CAIRD ON INDIA.

MR. JAMES CAIRD'S "Notes by the Way in India" are concluded in his fourth article published in the October number of the *Nineteenth Century*. This article deals with the land and people in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies. The Famine Commissioner visited Cuddapah, one of the Madras districts where the late famine had been very severe. He found there two-thirds of the ryots, or small landholders poor—"most of them as poor as the coolies who have no land." While in Cuddapah Mr. Caird had an opportunity of visiting the canal of the Madras Irrigation Company. A portion of this work—the lower half of the project, has been constructed with results thus described by Mr. Caird: "An English Company was formed, with authority to raise a capital of £1,000,000 on a Government guarantee of five per cent. But the cost of construction, based on estimates for deltaic districts, was enormously increased by the difficulty of crossing a rugged country, and the estimated capital was found quite inadequate to complete the work. Further sums were raised, and the guarantee extended, but an unexpected difficulty arose, in the refusal of the water by the cultivators of the black cotton soil, of which one-half at least of the irrigable land consists. The difficulties financially are thus doubled: first, by the vastly increased cost of the works beyond the original estimate; and second, by the want of demand for the water on so large a proportion of the irrigable area. Nor is the latter difficulty to be overcome, for in years of average rainfall the black fertile soil yields large crops without irrigation, their power of absorbing moisture from the atmosphere, and of retaining it, having been shown by the experiments at Sydapat to be six or eight times that of an ordinary dry soil. In a financial point of view this canal is a complete failure." Well might Mr. Hyndman say that the so-called 'reproductive works' prove unproductive in nine cases out of ten. The unremunerative character of a large portion of the expenditure on public works, more especially on canals, has been clearly brought out in the report of the Select Committee on Indian public works, which we noticed in a recent issue. It has been conclusively established that a large part of the outlay on works, which are classed as 'reproductive,' does not yield a small fraction of the interest, which has to be paid on the capital borrowed for their construction, and does not even sometimes yield enough to cover working expenses. When the works of the Madras Irrigation Company were projected, high were the expectations of their success held out to the public; and the Government unhesitatingly accepted the sanguine estimates of the enthusiastic engineers who had projected them.

From Cuddapah Mr. Caird proceeded to Bellary. This district, too, the reader knows, was heavily visited by the late famine. The Famine Commissioner writes:—"Crowds of people had come into the town to witness a grand religious procession, the animation of which might have well deceived a spectator into the belief that the reported sufferings from famine had been exaggerated. But a visit to some of the country villages dispelled that impression. In one which we examined, there are hundred families, seventy of whom are landowners, and thirty are landless. When all are mingled together the difference in the condition of the two classes is not readily distinguished. On my request the headman of the village placed all the landed men on one

side, and the landless on the other. This at once disclosed two distinct phases of humanity—the comparatively well-to-do landowner, clean and well fed, and the lackland black ‘coolie,’ thin eager-eyed, half-starved. I questioned these as to their present means of living, which they said were most scant and difficult, as the landholders were straitened by the famine and employed no labour; and the only thing they could do was to gather stalks of corn (large thick reeds from which the ears had been harvested) and carry it in bundles to the town to sell for fuel. What little they got from this was eked out by gathering and eating the seeds of weeds, which had been left to ripen after the regular crop had been removed. Poor creatures, they even take out the rafters of their wretched huts and sell them to buy food. The native officer, an intelligent man, in answer to my question whether this was a typical example of the agricultural villages in the district, said it was a favourable example, and the people here, being within a few miles of the principal town and station had chances which more remote villages did not possess. The lot of the labouring classes in this country, as Sir Richard Temple remarked in one of his Bengal administration reports, is really as hard as it can be borne. They have no resources beyond the current day, and are constantly on the verge of starvation.

The Famine Commission entered the Bombay Presidency at Sholapore, which is the seat of a cotton factory on the joint-stock principle, with a capital of £80,000 and employing 600 people. Now that a Bill for regulating factory labour has been introduced into the Viceroy's Council, Mr. Caird's observations on the factory he visited at Sholapore are so important that we must give them here *in extenso*: “The factory is filled with the newest machinery from Manchester, and has been established two years. The only drawback is the price of coal, which is six times higher than in England. The hours of labour are not restricted, generally eleven daily, the people working every day, and resting each alternate Sunday. The manufacture from Jute and Cotton, grown in this and neighbouring districts, is the coarser goods suited to the Indian market. The wages in comparison with Lancashire are as nearly as possible in the proportion of one month's work here for one week there. The Lancashire machinist who superintends the working says that under such circumstances Manchester cannot compete with them in Indian goods. Young men, women and children, seem all very deft at the work, and every part of it appears to be conducted much as the same work is at home. *It will be a great matter if this business proves financially successful, as there is no class which our rule has pressed harder upon than the native weaver and artisan.*” The italics are ours. The wish for the success of the cotton industry of India expressed by Mr. Caird must be the wish of every sincere well-wisher of the people of this country. But Manchester has, for obvious reasons, determined to crush this industry, which is providing large numbers of people with profitable employment, and in carrying out this determination the powerful cotton lords are being supported by Cabinet Ministers and professional philanthropists. If unrestricted labour had injured the health of the factory operatives of Sholapore, the matter would not surely have escaped the notice of a disinterested and careful observer like Mr. Caird. The truth is that if the hours of labour in Indian cotton mills be not restricted, there is danger of Manchester being undersold in the English market in regard to the coarser kinds of goods; and this “commercial view of the question,” Lord Shaftesbury has frankly confessed, ought not to be lost sight of in considering the question of the regulation of factory labour in India.

In the neighbourhood of Sholapore Mr. Caird inspected some of the land irrigated from the Ekrook Tank, a work calculated to irrigate upwards of 15,000 acres. *The advantages of irrigation when combined with ample manuring*, the Famine Commissioner found satisfactorily shown on the land of a sowcar, or native banker, who manures his land with a mixture of night-soil and street sweepings at the rate of forty-two an acre, which he buys at 1s. 6d. a ton in the town, and casts it. The land is planted with sugar-cane, kept

under constant irrigation, and the produce which the Famine Commissioner saw being reaped, squeezed and boiled, yields sugar worth £30 an acre, at a cost of £5 for the manure, £1 for the water, and 10s. for the land—which leaves a large profit for the labour and profit. Mr. Caird remarks:—“Comparing this with the management of the indolent cultivator, who takes everything he can out of the land at the least cost of labour, and with no attempt to improve or maintain its fertility, it may be doubted whether the system of dandling and protecting him is good either for the country or himself. The law of this Presidency now makes him a ward under the Collector if he gets into difficulties; and the Collector, already overwhelmed with work, instead of allowing him to be legally sold up when his means and credit are gone, may interpose and try to make a profit for him out of the land from which he could draw no profit himself! As this may be the position of thousands at the same time the notion that the Collector can do this successfully seems absurd.” But Mr. Caird forgets that the policy, which finds favour with our executive legislature is to enable the cultivator to keep his head above water at the expense of the sowcar or native banker. The Famine Commissioner naturally speaks a great deal about the indebtedness of the Deccan peasantry; but as the subject has been discussed *ad nauseum* in these columns we need not recur to it here. So far from encouraging sowcars who have the necessary capital for improving land, our Government is engaged in prosecuting a crusade against them, and their property is to be confiscated to relieve the embarrassed peasantry. Mr. Caird visited the Government firm at Khandeish, the superintendent of which told him that irrigation on black soil without manure is injurious; and that the native plough goes deeper than the English with the same power applied, and better suited to the land to the working cattle and to the means of the cultivator. We would commend this to the attention of Mr. Buck, the Director of Agriculture and Commerce, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, who is doing his best to introduce the English plough into this country. As regards irrigation, the Famine Commissioner is satisfied that *where good well-water is attainable, no other irrigation in India can compare with it.* Mr. Caird, we are glad to see, draws attention to the oppressions and hardships inflicted upon the people by the Forest Department. We read: “the Forest Department are very active in this part of the country, and contemplate dealing with one-seventh of its area, much of which is already heavily timbered. This is three times the proportion of woods to cultivated land in England. They are now enclosing great breadths, on which seeds of all kinds of forest trees, suited to the climate are sown broadcast during the rains. This enclosure shuts out the people from much of their grazing land, and from getting timber for fuel and other purposes to which they and their fathers had long been accustomed without stint. Great discontent is thereby aroused, which will most likely in the opinion of the police, lead to crime, and may become a source of danger. To a certain degree the preservation of forests is most desirable, but their extension by forest officers in a most reckless manner, and with too high a hand, should be most carefully guarded against.” The people, indeed, have, with a high hand, been deprived of their privilege of grazing cattle and collecting articles of natural produce in the reserved forests, and it is impossible to form an adequate conception of the discontent which these high-handed proceedings have engendered. Mr. Caird bears testimony to the efficiency of the Native guards employed at the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway. He says:—“The native guards and other employees are most reliable, sober men. In ten years not one has been dismissed for drunkenness. During the monsoon months, when traffic of all kinds diminishes on account of the rains, the manager gives a large proportion of the men leave for that period, to which they make no objection, as their mode of living is simple and cheap, and they have abundance saved to enable them to take a holiday with their relations. They return when the rains cease, the railway company being saved their wages in the idle time and the men having had their holiday.

Englishmen in the same position would have saved nothing, and could not afford a holiday.” In spite of these advantages attending the employment of Natives as guards, the East Indian Railway Company have dispensed with the services of their Native guards except those employed in the Howrah (railway) district.

In the concluding portion of his article Mr. Caird institutes an interesting comparison between the systems of English Administration of India and Dutch Administration of Java. In Java “Native ways, if blameless, are permitted, and natives are governed by natives according to native law and customs, under the effective supervision of European officials, who make them do their work if necessary.” Again, the Dutch have adopted such measures in Java as have secured a larger produce from the soil. “India, too,” rightly holds Mr. Caird, “needs better native agriculture and less English law.” He thus concludes his notes on India:

“It is impossible to contemplate the present state of India without serious apprehension. The people under the protection of our rule are increasing in number. The available good land is nearly all occupied, and much of it is deteriorating in productiveness from the exhausting system of agriculture. The landless class depending on labour is becoming more numerous, while the demand for labour does not increase. Scarcity is more frequent because the margin of production beyond the wants of the people is becoming every ten years narrower. *The remedy for this hazardous position is in less costly government and establishments, the extension of industrial employment, a sounder system of land tenure, and thereby the substitution of an improving for an exhausting agriculture.* On these points it will be my duty, with all deference, to place my views before Her Majesty's Government. Fortunately there is room for all, and in the last a very small increase of produce on so great an area would make a prodigious gain. These are the objects to be aimed at, and the direction in which safety can alone be found. *The connection with India which began with Queen Elizabeth will be fittingly maintained under Queen Victoria when a principle of progressive improvement shall have been wisely inaugurated.*”

The italics in the above passage are ours. Mr. Caird has correctly diagnosed the disease from which India has been suffering, and the application of the remedy which he prescribes will certainly effect a cure. It is only by retrenchment that the financial condition of India can be improved, as, according to the best authorities on the subject, the extreme limits of taxation have been already reached. The Government of India, as Mr. Fawcett points out in his article on Indian finance in the same number of the *Nineteenth Century* in which Mr. Caird's notes are concluded, has been hitherto carried on upon a very lavish scale under the belief that she is an extremely wealthy country. An expenditure which is suited to a wealthy country like England is altogether beyond the means of India. If India, to use Mr. Fawcett's language, “cannot afford to pay some of those who are now receiving seven or eight thousand a year, it is far better that she should get others to do the work for a smaller remuneration than incur debt and thus ultimately be driven to bear fresh burdens of taxation.” The extension of industrial employment will enable large numbers of people to earn an honest livelihood; but so far from encouraging such extension our benign Government, at the instance of the powerful cotton lords of Lancashire, who are possessed of political influence, is leaving nothing undone to crush our rising cotton industry. The question of improving the system of land tenure can only be satisfactorily settled by extending to the rest of the empire the blessings of the permanent settlement which Bengal enjoys, and which has done her incalculable good. Mr. Caird's investigations into the present condition of India have almost done the work of a Royal Commission, and we earnestly hope they may not prove altogether resultless.

A NOVEL ENTERTAINMENT.

LAST FRIDAY evening the Hon'ble the Maharajah Joteendra Mohun Tagore C. S. I. invited a

select company of friends, the flower of native society, to a novel and rare intellectual treat. It was the exhibition of extraordinary feats of memory by Mr. Ranga Charu of Coimbatore, Madras. No description will convey to the reader an adequate idea of the performances of this Pundit, who is called Satavadhani or the man with hundred cells of memory, we will call him *Satavadhani* or the hundred-mouthed, as his feats well entitle him to be called. The following was the bill of fare:

1. The audience will kindly propose a subject. On the audience giving a line to stand as the fourth, purporting something in accordance with the natural course of events, the Satavadhani will compose a stanza fulfilling these conditions. (Dictation being letter by letter in turn.)
2. In the second a sloka will be composed as above with the difference that the fourth line purports something opposed to the ordinary course of nature. (Do.)
3. The numerical position of any 3 letters being assigned, the performer will compose a stanza treating a proposed subject, with a puzzled construction so as to perplex even the best of grammarians as to the *nominatives*. (Do.)
4. Secondly, a stanza will be composed as just described, the predicate being involved. (Do.)
5. A stanza will be composed as above, the completion of the predicate being, in this case, involved. (Do.)
6. On a proposed subject, the performer will compose a stanza with the peculiarity that no labials occur. (Do.)
7. The performer will compose a stanza on any proposed subject, avoiding the use of any 4 letters the audience may choose to omit.
8. On the audience proposing any subject, the particular metre and the particular (figure)—he be employed, a stanza will be composed by him accordingly. Dictation being from first to last and vice versa. (Do.)
9. In an unfilled figure of squares, of the kind to be presented by the Shastry, the central squares lying along the figure's length being filled up by any letters the audience may choose, a stanza called—will be composed consisting of these letters and reading in a zigzag way. (Do.)
10. On a given subject a stanza of 2 lines called will be composed of 32 letters, apart from the normal direction of reading the stanza will read from the first letter in each line, diagonally in either way, at each time yielding the first and the second line.
11. On any proposed 8 letters being scattered as remotely as possible from one another, over the squares of a rectangle of 8 by 4 squares, the Shastry will, by filling the blank squares, compose a stanza incorporating within it the letters already given.

Given the multiplicand and multiplier, he will dictate the product carrying on the operation of multiplication mentally. To add to the difficulty of the affair, he will, in dictating the product mention each figure beginning from the unit's place as the turns comes on till the whole quantity is finished.

Several columns of figures to be added up—a mere process of addition. The figures in the first or any line of the columns to be added up, may be dictated severally one after another as the turn comes on. And (the line thus given being the largest of all quantities) when the dictation thus of the line is completed, he will give (by each figure again) the sum of the columns plus another quantity he will himself mention.

Division.—The Dividend may be ever so large but the Divisor should be below ten. Here again the figures in the Dividend and Divisor may be dictated severally, and he will give the quotient as well by each figure as the turn comes on.

Magic Squares.—Each square containing smaller squares from 9 to 81, that is, from 3 to 9 on each side. He will proceed to fill in the smaller squares so that the sum of the figures in any column of the smaller squares of each big figure vertically, horizontally or diagonally equals a given number. Here the audience may, after giving the number, ask him to fill in the small squares just as they please, that is, they may mention the smaller squares in any order they please and ask him what number is to be put down in each square.

Repeating Verses or Sentences in any language of the world.

The letters or words as the case may be (in English it must of course, be words as he does not know spelling), may be repeated one after another in any order from first to last or from last to first, the numerical position of the letters or words being given, and he will recite in the end the sentences of words. The difficulty is enhanced as the enumeration of the letters or words is not continuous, but forms only one part of the Avathanam. The letters need not necessarily be always numbered serially. They may be numbered irregularly also. For instance, the fifth letter may be numbered, as 1st, 4th as 2nd, 20th as third and so on, until the letters or words are exhausted. After enumeration, you need only repeat the numbers of the letters from first to last in their order and he will recite the sentence or verse.

Distinguishing Vessels by their sound.—A number of vessels may be kept out of view, and first struck so as to produce sound, the number of each vessel in its order, being given as it is struck. He will, when the Avathanam begins, tell the number of vessel from its sound.

Directing the course of the Knight on the Chess-board.—In one Board he will so direct it as to make it pass through all the 64 squares. In another through all with the exception of some previously marked out, and in a third through all the squares in such a way that the number added up in any vertical or horizontal column may give the same sum, the squares being numbered with reference to the move of the Knight's.

During the Avathanam he will carry on logical and philosophical discussions with any opponent in Sanskrit, and comment on verses that may be read out to him.

He will dictate the cards to be thrown to a substitute. The latter, when the cards are distributed, need only repeat once the different kinds and denominations he may have.

There was not time to go through the whole programme, but the following were selected:

A gentleman proposed the subject "Gas-light" and gave certain Sanskrit words as the last foot of a stanza. The Satavadhani or the Hundred-mouthed was requested to compose a sloka in the same metre, he readily dictated the sloka.

Another gentleman proposed a subject, Hymn to *Sanaschara* (Saturn), the Hundred-mouthed composed it and dictated the letters in the order of a Knight, passing through all the 64 squares of the Chess-board. The sloka was taken down by a third party as it was dictated by the Satavadhani.

Another gentleman repeated at intervals the letters of the Durga Sukta of the Rig Veda at random, giving only the position of the letters by figures. After the Sukta was finished in this form the Satavadhani repeated the Sukta verse by verse.

Another gentleman proposed a magic square of 16 small squares, stating that the sum of the figures vertically, diagonally, and horizontally should count 55. The Satavadhani at intervals dictated the numbers, mentioning the position they should each occupy in the square. The figures given when completed counted 55 each side as proposed.

The Rathavandha or Acrostics.

A gentleman gave some chance letters standing in the central vertical line of a Rathavandha or Acrostics and requested the Satavadhani to compose a Hymn to Vishnu. He dictated words beginning with the initial letter in each square and thus completed a stanza in Sanskrit.

A gentleman requested the Satavadhani to compose three feet of a sloka the last of which should end with certain words which were given. The Satavadhani composed the sloka by dictation in less than 3 minutes.

Another gentleman repeated at intervals a sum of multiplication, the multiplicand of which consisted of 4 figures and the multiplier of 3. The Satavadhani at intervals gave figures which read together gave the correct result.

Another gentleman proposed the following English verse:—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
L	i	v	e	s	o	f
g	r	e	a	t	m	e
n	e	n				
8	9	10	11	12	13	

We can make our lives sublime—

The words were numbered as above. The proposer repeated not consecutively but at random the words one at a time at different intervals. The Satavadhani does not know English, but just repeated once the words as they were being given, and when the verse was completed he repeated the lines word per word first from the beginning and then reversing from the end.

All the performances were done without the help of paper, pen and ink. What was most wonderful was that all the questions were put to the Satavadhani or the Hundred-mouthed at one and the same time; there was a perfect Babel of tongue. Thus one gentleman as stated above proposed a letter for each square for the knight's movement on the chess board, the second the number of the small squares of the magic square, the third the figures one at a time of the sum of multiplication, the fourth the numbered words at random of the English verse and so on, one gentleman in the meantime sounding a bell at intervals. The Satavadhani went on at the same time dictating one word for this stanza, another for that, a figure for this square, and another for that, and so on, and when the whole was completed the answers given were found to be remarkably correct, including the number of times the bell was rung. He does not know the English language, but he repeated the English verse quite correctly, though he had heard only once the different words given at random at different intervals. In this interesting manner the company was engaged for about two hours and a half, and the feats of memory and extempore composition on difficult subjects exhibited by the Satavadhani or the Hundred-mouthed were really wonderful. We for one had never seen such a prodigy. The Maharaja rewarded the Satavadhani with a gold *keyur* or armlet, which itself is a beautiful work of art, containing the emblems of Saraswati or the goddess of learning and an inscription, and with Rs. 100 in cash. The *keyur* was handed to the Pundit on behalf of the Maharaja by Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, who spoke a few appropriate words in Hindustani, and who was followed by Pandit Moheshchandra Nayaratra, who addressed the Satavadhani an impressive exhortation in Sanskrit. The Satavadhani returned thanks in Sanskrit verse, which he composed *extempore* whilst on his legs, and the numbers flowed quickly and smoothly without let or hindrance. The entertainment was thoroughly intellectual, the like of which had not been seen in Calcutta; it recalled to mind the classic days of India, when intellectual gladiators thus used to entertain royalty. The company could not feel too grateful to the Maharaja, justly noted for his generous patronage of literature, art and music, and to his accomplished

brother, for this novel and rare treat. He was the first to bring to public notice the gifted Maharatha lady Roma Bai, who has since made a wide name through the length and breadth of the land, and he has also been the first to recognize the wonderful powers of this intellectual prodigy from Madras. The general public will derive real intellectual pleasure by cultivating acquaintance with Runga Charu Satavadhani or Runga Charu the Hundred-mouthed.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

THERE WERE some gay doings at Delhi for the reception of His Excellency the Viceroy. The citizens of the imperial city presented a loyal address to His Excellency, who returned an elaborate reply, which was obviously intended as a vindication of His Excellency's foreign and domestic policy. This speech deserves a more extended notice than what we can give in this issue. We propose to notice it in our next.

THE NAGAS it would seem are giving some trouble. Konoma has after all been carried, but not without a desperate effort, as the following telegrams show:

Kohima, through Golaghat, Nov. 27th.—Konoma was attacked yesterday and part of it taken. The Nagas report this morning that the whole village is in the hands of the troops who are burning it. The smoke is visible from this station.

Camp Pherimapani, thro' Golaghat Nov. 27th.—At the attack on Konoma 150 men of the 43rd under Major Evans were ordered to the back of the village to intercept fugitives. The 44th under Colonel Nuttall formed a storming party. The guns played on the village with shell and shrapnell but with little effect. Fifty men of the 44th covered the guns. They afterwards tried to intercept the Nagas and took up a strong position in a wood. They lost one man killed. The Nagas made a most stubborn resistance against the storming party. Rocks, spears and bullets were showered on them; but position after position was carried by the Gurkhas at the point of the bayonet. Panjis and other obstructions were placed on the path, and the stone walls in some places were 20 feet high. Major Cock displayed daring gallantry. He was shot through the chest, and has died of his wounds. Lieutenants Ridgeway and Forbes were wounded whilst leading on their men, the former by a bullet through his shoulder, and the latter by a spear thrown from the wall. One Sepoy climbing over the wall was dragged in by the Nagas and his head thrown back. An immense amount of grain was found. The Nagas evidently thought their position impregnable. The 44th lost 44 men, killed and wounded. Lieutenant Macgregor brought in the wounded to Secheman on the 24th. Konoma is being dismantled. Ridgeway and Forbes are doing well. Konoma was shelled for two hours, and then taken by assault. The village and several Sangas were captured. The Nagas fought desperately then retired to a higher stockade, which remained to be taken. The firing lasted throughout the day and night. Colonel Nuttall's cheek was grazed by a bullet. The Subadar-Major of the 44th was killed. Our loss was heavy. There is no truth whatever in the statement about the Nagas capturing a European lady.

The tiny Nagas seem to have made a bolder stand than the stout Affghans. We hope the Government will now try to gain over the Nagas without further expenditure of powder and shot.

THE FOLLOWING gentlemen have been appointed Government Commissioners for the Calcutta Municipality:

Mr. A. A. Apear, Moulvi Abdul Latif Khan Bahadur, Mr. W. Duff Bruce C.E., Mr. E. S. Gubbay Rajah Harendra Krishna Bahadur Babu Jagadanand Mukerji Mr. E. McAlpin Maharaja Narendra Krishna Mr. R. C. Sterndale Babu Prem Chand Baral Mr. C. J. Brookes Mr. F. J. Fergusson Mr. J. Westland C.E. Mr. D. J. Zamin, Babu Joda Lal Mallick, Mr. J. E. Caithness, Hon'ble Sayal Amir Hussain, Hon'ble A. B. Inglis Mr. G. F. Mewburn, Prince Farrakh Shah Mr. Manockji Rustomji Dr. Kenneth Stuart, Babu Rajendra Nath Mitra.

Most of these gentlemen are old Commissioners, all of whom have not been regular in their attendance. The Government is always forward in criticizing the attendance of elected Commissioners; it would have been consistent, if it had eliminated those Commissioners, who during the past term did not care to attend the meetings of the Corporation. The infusion of some new blood would have been useful. We are glad to observe that Mr. Inglis, Mr. Mewburn and Mr. Manockjee Rustomjee have consented to be members of the Corporation.

Since the new Corporation of Calcutta has been created, the Commissioners have had no opportunity to see with their own eyes the great Municipal works, which it is their duty to watch, to criticize and to provide for. Mr. Souttar, the present chairman, however, gave them this much-needed opportunity by organizing a steamer party to Kotrung and Palta, to which he invited the present and past Commissioners, the editors of public journals, and several other gentlemen both

European and Native, who are known to take interest in municipal affairs. The Port Commissioners kindly placed at the disposal of Mr. Souttar their steam-boat and flat, and the party left the pontoon opposite the Mayo Hospital at about 11-15 A. M. They first touched at Kotrung, where they inspected the brick-field and examined the new process of burning bricks patented by Mr. Bull. From Kotrung they steamed away to Pulta, where through the kind hospitality of Mr. Souttar a splendid tiffin was provided for both the European and Native gentlemen. The restaurant for the European gentlemen was in charge of Mr. Turnbull, and the same for the native gentlemen in that of Babu Shama Churn Dey, the Vice-Chairman. Both were most active in attending to the wants and comforts of the guests, and Mr. Souttar also personally superintended this most interesting department. After tiffin the party inspected the Water-works, guided by Mr. Kimber, the Engineer, and Mr. Fenwick, the Assistant Engineer, both of whom afforded all necessary information. The party returned to Calcutta at about 7 P. M. The weather was delightful and the trip most pleasant. The company greatly enjoyed the trip and heartily thanked Mr. Souttar for it.

WE HAVE before us Dr. Rajendrala Mitra's Notices of Sanskrit MSS. No. XIV. It might be in the recollection of the reader that the conservation of Sanskrit MSS. has been undertaken by the Asiatic Society at the instance of the Government of India. The Asiatic Society has entrusted Dr. Rajendralala Mitra with this important work. The collection of Sanskrit MSS. has been going on in the other Presidencies under the auspices of the local authorities, but the plan adopted by Dr. Mitra, though involving much labour, is by far the most comprehensive. It not only gives the names of the book and author, but its age, its character, an abstract of its contents, and also a short account of the literary labours of the author noticed. A scholar, who wishes to consult a particular work, may get all necessary information by referring to the notices, and then if he wishes he may refer to the text itself. The reader can have no idea of the labour and research which this undertaking has entailed upon Dr. Mitra, for he has in many instances condensed in a few pithy sentences the result of his researches for weeks. It is a work of national importance, the value of which is as great as that of a Cyclopædia, and we only wonder how he has been carrying it on so regularly amidst the multiplicity of his occupations. We fear it will take him years to complete it, and it is to be wished that in the interest of our ancient literature, which is not the heritage of the Hindus only but of the whole civilized world, he were placed in a position to complete it within a reasonable time. Hitherto Dr. Mitra has been carrying on this work as a labour of love; but this is not as it should be. His experience and knowledge should be more effectually utilised for the benefit of the public than what can be done by leaving the matter to his leisure hours. We do not hesitate to say that the nation would feel grateful to Government, if it were to release him from his official fetters and give him full learned leisure on his present pay for the execution of this cyclopædia of Sanskrit literature and other literary labours to which he has devoted his life-time. It is a pity that a man of his attainments, scholarship, and devotion to letters should be obliged to waste his time in looking after works of such secondary importance as those of his present office under Government.

Darlington's Pain-Curer has been found to be a certain cure for Pain on the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diphtheria, Headache, Toothache, Earache, Deafness of the ear, Neuralgia, Colic, Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Sciatica, Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, Freckles, & Eruptions on the skin. May be had retail or wholesale, direct from their Establishment, 49, Dhurrantollah-street, Calcutta.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 29th November, 1879.

Our market has during the week under review evinced less activity and transactions have rather been confined to a limited scale.

Imports.

Piece-Goods.—There has been a continued fair enquiry for Grey Shirtings 8½ lbs 50 and 54 inch wide goods, Jaconets Mulls and T cloths without a change in price; white goods no alteration. For Prints the demand continues good, and in some instances prices have advanced. Yarns, local manufactures have maintained their previous position, even obtained higher rates, imported 40s. have slightly declined.

Metal.—There were enquiries in sheathing copper to arrive.

Exports.

Operations in this market have been restricted to some extent, owing to extreme prices for Shellac, Jute and oil seeds, which combining with the high rates of freight rendered shipments almost impracticable.

Indigo.—The first sale of the season was effected by the well-known and enterprising firm of Messrs. William Moran & Co. Brokers, for forward delivery consisting of 600 chests of M & H mark at Rs. 305 per Fy. maund and the entire crop of C M C K of this season. The equivalent of these prices we are told are above London, October rates.

Tea.—on the 27th instant, 10,000 were sold at public auction at rates 1d. to 1½ per lb. easier than before; quality rather inferior.

Jute.—market fully maintained its previous firmness and there has been a fair amount of transactions for local mills at current rates which at the close of the week showed an easier tendency. A large sale of 10,000 bales of known good marks for forward delivery during the months of December, January and February has taken place at prices ranging 29-8 @ 29-12 per bale of 40C lbs.

Shellac.—continues very firm and prices still advancing, Rs. 92 @ 93 for European average and Rs. 68 @ 78 for Native average and Rs. 64 to 65 for Garnet.

Cotton.—the new crop has made its appearance in the market and sold for 15-12 per maund. This rate will help the mills to earn a good profit if the yarn should continue to sell at the present rates.

Stock and Shares.

This market has been less active than before. Government Securities during the early part of the week experienced some enquiry and prices slightly improved, but towards the latter end they declined again.

Joint Stock Shares, save coals and I. G. S. which have been in good request, the rest found buyers only at reduced prices.

4% closing rate 92-14 @ 92 15
4½% " " 101-4 @ 101-5

MONEY MARKET.

(November 29, 1879.)

GOVERNMENT LOANS.

4 Per Cent. Promissory Notes	Rs. 92 14	a	93 4
4½ Per Cent. of 1870 (1885).....	" 99 0	a	99 4
4½ Per Cent. of 1871 (1881).....	" 95 8	a	96 0
4½ Per Cent. of (Trans.) of 1872 (1879) Reduced to 4 p. et.	" 101 5	a	101 8
4½ Per Cent. of 1878-79 (1893).....	" 101 5	a	101 8
4½ Per Cent. of 1879 (1893) (New loan),	" 101 5	a	101 8

GOVERNMENT DEBENTURES OF 1867.

5 Per Cent. for 15 years (1882)...	Rs. 101	a	
CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.			
6 Per Cent. of 1864 (1884)...	Rs. 107 0	a	107 8
6 Per Cent. of 1865 (1885)...	" 107 8	a	108 0
6 Per Cent. of 1866 (1886)...	" 108 0	a	108 8
6 Per Cent. of 1867 (1887)...	" 108 8	a	109 8
6 Per Cent. of 1870 (1890)...	" 110 0	a	110 8
6 Per Cent. of 1872 (1892)...	" 110 8	a	111 8
6 Per Cent. of 1878 (1908)...	" 102 0	a	102 4

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS		Rs.	A.	P.
The District Road Cess Committee, Tipperah.....		6	8	0
Baboo Nocoor Kristo Mookerjee, Jonye.....		20	0	0
" Kristopersad Chatterjee, Mooradpoor.....		13	4	0
" Bungshee Dhur Roy, Moorshedabad.....		13	4	0
" Oshiny Coomarr Mookerjee, Meerut.....		6	10	0
" Chundee Churn Mojomdar, Dehra-Dun.....		1	12	6
" Poorna Chunder Sircar, Chinsura.....		13	4	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette, —November 26, 1879.

GENERAL.—Mr. J. Pratt, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, on leave, is posted to Purneah.

Mr. W. Macpherson, District and Sessions Judge, Cuttack, is allowed furlough for one year, under Section 21 of the Civil Leave Code, together with subsidiary leave for a period not exceeding 30 days, under Section 34 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 15th proximo.

Mr. W. H. Verner, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Burdwan, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Cuttack, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. W. Macpherson, or until further orders.

Mr. J. Pratt is allowed furlough for 14 days, under Sections 21 and 47 of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of that granted to him under orders of the 10th January 1878.

Baboo Gobin Chunder Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serampore, Hooghly, who was placed in temporary charge of the Mehesheka division of the Howrah district, rejoined his duties at Serampore on the afternoon of the 15th ultimo.

Captain L. J. H. Grey Assistant Commissioner who reported his return from furlough on the 30th ultimo, is allowed

subsidiary leave from that date to the 14th instant inclusive to enable him to rejoin his appointment.

Mr. R. H. Pawsey is appointed to act until further orders as Magistrate and Collector of Cuttack.

Mr. A. Forbes Offg. Magistrate and Collector, Dacca is allowed leave for 1 month and 30 days under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 2nd proximo or from any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Hurry Mohun Chandra, Second Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division, having resumed charge of his duties on the forenoon of the 3rd instant, the unexpired portion of the leave granted to him under the orders of the 27th August last is cancelled.

Mr. C. A. Wilkins, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, who has reported his return from furlough, is posted to Gya. The Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India has granted the following officers extensions of furlough for the periods mentioned opposite their respective names:—

Mr. H. L. Oliphant, Judicial Commissioner, Chota Nagpore,—15 days

" J. Postford, Assistant Magistrate and Collector,—one month.

Mr. H. L. Dampier, Member, Board of Revenue, who reported his return from furlough on the 4th instant, is allowed subsidiary leave from that date to the 6th idem inclusive, to enable him to rejoin his appointment.

Advertisements.

Notice.

Tenders are invited for the supply of 1000 maunds of the best rubble Coal (not less than one inch) for the Dacca Municipality to be delivered at the Dacca Water Works. Apply on or before the 30th instant to the undersigned.

A. C. TUTT,
Vice-Chairman, Dacca Municipality.

The Pocket Code of Civil Procedure, with the latest amendments containing also the Mufassal Small Cause Court Act, the Indian Registration Act and the Indian Limitation Act.

Price Rs. 2; with postage Rs. 2-4 ans.

A handy and highly useful Edition for constant use and ready reference.

To be had of

1. Messrs. Thacker Spink & Co.
2. Librarian, Vakeel's Library Appellate High Court.
3. Babu Koylas Chunder Bose, 18, Strand Road, Bhowanipore.

THE ORIGINAL HARDWARE ESTABLISHMENT
OF INDIA.

T. E. THOMSON & CO.

9, Esplanade Row, Calcutta.

New Importations of Japanned Ware.

DEED-BOXES, WITH POLISHED TOPS AND
TUMBLER LOCKS.

16,	18,	20,	22,	24,	26,	28,	30 inch.
Rs. 12-8,	16-0,	18-8,	22-8,	27-0,	32-0,	36-0,	40 each.
			32,	34,		36 inch.	

Rs. 52-0, 56-0, 62-0 each.

Japanned Air tight Dress-Boxes.

30" by 17" by 13"	...	Rs. 32 0
33" by 19" by 14"	...	" 38 0
36" by 21" by 15"	...	" 45 0

Cash Boxes, T. E. T's Lock.

No.	0,	1,	2,	3,	4,	5.
Fillet	Rs. 12-0	12-8,	13-8,	14-8,	16-0,	17-8 each.
Oak...	" 12-4,	12-12,	13-12,	14-12,	16-4,	17-12 "

Paper Boxes.

Black (T. E. T's Lock)	Rs. 12-0,	16-0,	20-0,	25-8 each.
Fillet	" 16-0,	20-0,	20-3,	28-0 each.
Oak	" 17-0,	20-0,	24-8,	30-0 each.
Black (Barron's)	" 11-0,	14-0,	17-8,	21-8 each.
Fillet	" 15-0,	17-8,	21-0,	25-0 each.
Black (Tumbler)	" 8-8,	12-8,	16-0,	20-0 each.
Fillet	" 11-8,	15-0,	18-8,	23-0 each.

Black Japanned Paper Boxes.

With end wire handles and tumbler locks

		T. E. T. & Co.'s	
		locks.	Rs.
13½ by 8½ by 4½	..	Rs. 8 8	Rs. 13
16½ by 10½ by 5½	...	" 11 8	" 16
19½ by 22 by 6½	...	" 16 0	" 19

Uniform Boxes, very strong.

20" by 12" by 8", 25" by 14" by 10", 28" by 16" by 12."			
Rs.	20,	25,	30 each.

Oval Bonnet Boxes.

No. 1, 2, 3.

Rs. 7-8, 8-8, 10. each.

Round Sugar Boxes.

No.	0,	1,	2,	3,	4,	5,	6,
Rs.	1-0,	1-2,	1-4,	1-8,	2-4,	3,	3-12 each.

Ten per cent. discount off the above prices for Cash.

F. W. BAKER & Co.,

Drapers, Silk Mercers & Upholsterers.

By Special Appointment to H. E. THE Viceroy

AND GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA,

NORTHBROOK HOUSE, CALCUTTA.

BRANCHES AT

Mussoorie, Allahabad & Darjeeling.

The largest showrooms, containing the most

EXTENSIVE STOCK IN INDIA,

New goods of every description have

JUST BEEN RECEIVED,

New Brocaded Silks and Satins

New Silk Velvets in all colors.

New Silk Stockings in very choice

Patterns, Velvet Pile, Tapestry

And Brussels Carpets Repps

Damask cloths, Cur-

tains Tapestry Repps

Cornice Fringes

Mirrors in chaste

Gilded Frames

etc. etc. etc.

INSPECTION SOLICITED.

Our Furnishing Department is replete with a very large and varied stock and we are prepared to undertake Furnishing of every description and to supply estimates for the same.

The Department is under the supervision of an experienced European and every care is taken to render satisfaction and meet the wishes of our constituents.

F. W. BAKER & Co.,

Northbrook House, Calcutta.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

President.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE, K.T.

Vice-Presidents.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND, K.G.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, K.G.

Report by the Directors

PRESENTED TO THE

SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COMPANY, Held at Edinburgh on Friday 4th April, 1879.

The Directors submitted the following Report on the business done by the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December, 1878.

Life Business.

During the year there were issued 1034 Policies, assuring £1,034,651, the new Premiums on which amount to £33,022-17-8.

The Claims which occurred during the year, including 20 Endowments, were 262 in number, arising under 322 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amounts, with Bonus additions, to the sum of £220,243-10, after deducting re-assurances.

The Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,852,566-11-3, being £140,689-19-8 above what it was on 31st December, 1877. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, set aside to meet the claims under that Department of the Company's business.

Annuity Business.

In the Annuity Department 55 Bonds were issued securing the sum of £2,969-0-6 yearly, and for which, the Company received the sum of £28,892-9-4.

INDIAN BRANCH.

CHIEF OFFICE FOR INDIA.

1, HASTING STREET, CALCUTTA.

Local Board of Directors:

R. A. Lyall, Esq. (Lyall, Rennie & Co.,) Merchant.

E. T. Roberts, Esq., Solicitor.

Robert Steel, Esq., Merchant.

General Agents for India: ROBERTS, MORGAN & CO., No. 1, Hastings Street, Calcutta.

N.B.—Persons assured with Profits in this Company are not liable as shareholders or members of the Company.

THE ORIGINAL HARDWARE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIA.**T. E. THOMSON & CO.,****9, ESPLANADE ROW, CALCUTTA.**

AGENTS FOR

THE PATENT PLUMBAGO CRUCIBLE CO.,

BEG TO CALL ATTENTION TO THEIR STOCK OF

MORGAN'S PATENT CRUCIBLES

The capabilities which have now for so many years distinguished these Crucibles, are the following:—
Their quality is uniform. They withstand the greatest heat without danger. Their average durability for Gold, Silver, Copper, and other ordinary Metals is forty to fifty pourings, in some cases over one hundred have been obtained. They never crack, and heat more rapidly than any other kind. One annealing only required. Change of temperature has no effect. They can when hot from the furnace be dipped in cold water with safety. The saving of labour and metal is very great. In Steel Melting the saving of fuel has been demonstrated to amount to a ton and half to every Ton of Steel fused. For Zinc they last longer than iron pots, and save the great loss which arises from mixture with iron. Those for Malleable Cast Iron can be used for several days, doing each day nearly double the work of any other Crucible.

As these Crucibles last longer than others it follows that the Saving of Metal must be great, because to each worn Crucible a quantity of Metal adheres. In fact, comparing Morgan's Patent with other Crucibles, the Saving of Metal, Time, and Fuel alone is more than equivalent to their cost.

A. Made in sizes varying from 2oz. to any required capacity, and are marked by the number of seers they will contain, thus—No. 5 will contain 5 seers Copper, No. 100=100 seers No. 200=200 seers. No. 300=300 seers. No. 400=400 seers.

PRICES.

Crucibles	..	..	..	4 annas per No.
Stands...	..	..	..	2 " "
Covers...	..	..	..	2 " "
Stirrers	..	..	..	Re. 1 " each.

Ten per cent. discount for cash with order on amounts above Rs. 10' and an enhanced discount off wholesale orders.

ANY SIZES OF THE ABOVE CRUCIBLES, FROM 0000 TO 150, SUPPLIED FROM STOCK.

THE PATENT PLUMBAGO CRUCIBLE COY.'S SALAMANDER CRUCIBLES.

Which do not require annealing and do not absorb moisture.

PATENT ANNULAR HOT-AIR FURNACE,

FOR MELTING BRASS, IRON, STEEL, AND OTHER METALS.

Patented by JOHN FLETCHER

For Great Britain, America, France, Belgium, Austria, Hungary, Sweden, Spain, Italy, Russia, &c.

SOLE AGENTS:

THE PATENT PLUMBAGO CRUCIBLE COMPANY

THE SPECIAL ADVANTAGES OF THE PATENT FURNACE.

It has no fire bars as in the ordinary brass furnaces, but a solid dished bottom instead. Should the crucible leak or the metal be accidentally spilt it runs down into the dished bottom and is there collected in a convenient form for remelting. On account of the blast entering the furnace above the place where the metal would lie there will be no necessity, in the event of an accident, to stop working; the metal will take no harm, but can be removed at night when the dished bottom is opened to clean away the slag and take out the stand. All time usually spent in washing and smelting brass ashes is therefore saved by this arrangement. There is a great saving in coke. Much less than half the quantity required in the ordinary furnaces, for a given weight of metal, is necessary in melting in this furnace. The rapidity of melting—120 lbs of brass can be run down in half an hour, starting with a cold furnace, subsequent meltings of course being made much more quickly. Small coke may be used if a start be given with a bottom of ordinary sized pieces, thus utilising that which for general foundry purposes is useless. The certainty with which metal can be melted, it being a well-known fact with casters that with ordinary furnaces, the state of the atmosphere seriously affects the draught and time of fusion. If the outlet B is led into a chimney stack the furnace can be worked without a blast, thus obviating the necessity of suspending operations while the fan is not running. After using the furnace, in the event of another heat not being immediately required, it is only requisite to shut off the blast, take out the crucible, and close the lid, and the furnace will keep alight for several hours without the addition of fresh fuel.

Its capabilities (now practically proved by many eminent firms) are as follows:—Previous to his invention of this furnace the Patentee had four of the ordinary furnaces with fire bars in them in full work, and one 60 lb. crucible in each, but since adopting this furnace he has dispensed with the ordinary furnaces, and is now working with one patent furnace in their place, using a Morgan's Patent Crucible, 100 lb. size, and doing more work.

Orders for Salamander Crucibles and patent Furnaces registered for supply on arrival. Prices and particulars on application to,

T. E. Thomson & Co.,

No. 9, Esplanade Row, Calcutta.

Notice.

The Nara! Zemindars intend giving permanent leases of their Parganas, Mahomedshahi, Nasaratshahi, Dhuldi, Dantia, and Birmohan. Settlements may be made of villages singly, or in groups. Intending candidates are to apply to

KALI CHARAN GHOSE,

Manager, Nara! Joint-Estate.

Nara!, 26th November, 1879.

Notice.

Wanted an experienced Overseer of Works for the Maisadul Wards Estate on a salary of Rs. 100 and horse allowance Rs. 30 per mensem. Applications will be received up to the 15th Proximo.

T. BEIGHTON,

For Collector.

Midnapur Collectorate

Wards Department,

The 24th November, 1879.

MIRACLE!!!

DR. W. C. ROY'S

SPECIFIC FOR INSANITY

NUMEROUS TESTIMONIALS

Sold at No. 25, Prosono Coomar Tagore's St., Calcutta

Price Rs. 5 per phial

Re. 1 in addition for postage and packing.

U. N. BAGCHI, M. A.,

Manufacturing Chemist.

Notice.

On and from 1st December next, the First and Second Class fares on the Nalhati State Railway will be charged at 0-1-6 and 0-0-9 per mile respectively. Thus the First Class fare for the entire distance from Nalhati to Azimgunge and Vice Versa, will be Rs. 2-10-0 and the Second Class fare for the same distance will be Rs. 1-5-0 only.

R. G. MOOKERJEE,

Manager.

Calcutta, 24th November, 1879,

WANTED an Overseer under the District Road Cess Committee Mymensingh on a Salary of Rs. 100 per mensem only. Those who have passed the Overseers' examination P. W. D. and acquired some practical knowledge of road and masonry work need apply. Applications with copies of testimonials will be received by the undersigned up to the 1st December 1879.

Mymensingh,

Road Cess Office,

The 5th November 1879.

Chairman, Road Cess Committee.

Notice.

MADRAS FAIR COMMITTEE.

The Madras Fair will be held in the People's Park on the 31st of December 1879 and three following days. The Committee are prepared to allot sites for shows, booths &c. on application to the undersigned.

People's Park Madras, } V. KRISHNAMA CHARIAR,

1st October 1879. } R. J. BALDREY,

Honorary Secretaries

COLLEGE AND SCHOOL

SILVER MEDALS FOR THE YOUTH OF BOTH SEXES

WE beg to draw the attention of the various Educational Departments of Government, and of all Donors of Prizes to Colleges and Schools, to our large and varied Stock of SILVER MEDALS, suitable for Presentation to Students and successful Prize-winners.



The Empress Medal, Rs. 30 cash.

Having been repeatedly asked for a Medal bearing the representation of Her Majesty the Queen, we have just produced

THE "EMPRESS OF INDIA" COLLEGE AND SCHOOL MEDAL.

A GOLD OR SILVER MEDAL, of 1½ inches in diameter.
 Cash { Gold Medal, in Case Rs. 200
 Prices { Silver Medal, in Case, with or without Loop
 for Ribbon Rs. 30
 It bears on the obverse the head and bust of Her Majesty, within the legend "Victoria Empress," and on the REVERSE a raised Laurel Wreath only, thus leaving space for inscription. *Vide Illustration.*
 The Temple of Fame Medal 1½-inch, Rs. 20 cash in case.
 The Star Medal Rs. 16 in case.
 The Triumph of Industry Medal Rs. 16 in case.
 Plain Silver Medals, 1½ inches diameter Rs. 10 in case,
 1) Rs. 14 "
 Silver Medals, with Wreath on each side, 1½ inches diameter Rs. 19
 NOTE.—The prices quoted are for the Medals and Cases only. Any engraving or inscription which may be ordered to be cut upon them will be subject to a further charge, varying according to the cost of production.
 Gold Medals we make to order, at prices ranging from Rs. 50 to 200.

HAMILTON & Co.

Manufacturing Gold and Silversmiths, Calcutta.

J. CORFIELD & Co.

11, OLD COURT HOUSE STREET,

CALCUTTA.



PATENT ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

Those only who have lost their natural teeth and have replaced them with the PATENT STONE ARTIFICIAL TEETH made by J. CORFIELD & Co., can appreciate and understand how marvellously art approaches nature, and how perfect our artificial teeth are, for all purposes for which natural teeth are designed.

Thousands of natives from all parts of India have come to us toothless and miserable, unable to masticate their food and enjoy their *pan* and have left us after a few days, marvelling at the change wrought in their personal appearance and in their increased physical comfort. Highest quality of material and workmanship guaranteed.

J. CORFIELD & Co.

Surgeon Dentists.

11, Old Court House Street, Calcutta.

New Civil Procedure Code & other Acts.

Apply early, DARLINGTON & CO.,
49, Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta.

TO LOVERS OF GOOD READING.

READ
THE "CALCUTTA MAGAZINE."

Single, or specimen copies, forwarded anywhere, free of postage, on receipt of its price Re. 1, which may be sent in postage stamps to the Manager, "Calcutta Magazine,"
49, Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta.

No More Pains!!!

DARLINGTON'S Pain-Curer

Warranted to cure pains of every description arising from whatever cause, on any part of the human frame. A certain cure for Pains in the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diphtheria, Headache, Toothache, Earache, Deafness of the ear, Neuralgia, Colics, Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Sciatica, Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, Freckles, or spots on the face, and Eruptions on the Skin.

Pains of every description have been cured by the outward application only of this medicine, when all the skill of the medical art has been tried without effect.
 Per bottle Re. 1; Large size Rs. 2. Packing As. 8

DARLINGTON & CO.

49, Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta.

General Jeet Jung Bahadur, Rana, of Nepal after ordering for one large bottle of Darlington's Pain-Curer, expressed his approbation and ordered for a dozen large bottles of the same.

DARLINGTON'S SPLEEN MIXTURE.

Has invariably proved successful in curing enlargement of the Spleen of several years standing. It has always effected a cure when other medicines have signally failed, Re. 1 Packing As. 8.

DARLINGTON & CO.

49, Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta.

NOW READY

NOTICES OF THE BRITISH POETS.

BY MAJOR D. L. RICHARDSON,

600 PAGES, PRICE, Rs. 5. POSTAGE FREE CONSISTING OF Addison, Akenside, Armstrong, Miss Baillie, Bampfylde Barnfield, Barton, Bayley, Beattie, Beaumont, Blacklock, Bowles, Browne, Browning, Bulwer Burns, Butler, Byron, Campbell, Carew, Chalkhill Chapman, Chatterton, Chaucer, Churchill, Hartley Coleridge, Saml Taylor Coleridge, Collins Congreve Cotton, Cowley, Cowper, Crabbe, Crasshaw, Croly Cunningham, Dale Daniel, Darwin, Davenant, Davies, Dekker, Denham, Donne, Drayton, Drummond, Dryden, Dunbar, Dyer, Elliot, Elton, Fairfax Falconer, Giles, Fletcher, John Fletcher, Phineas, Fletcher, Ford, Gascoigne, Gay, Glover, Goldsmith, Gower, Gray, Mathew, Green, Robert, Green, Habington, Hall Harrington, Heber, Mrs. Hemans, Herrick, Heywood, Hogg, Hood, Horne, Howard, Mary and William, Howitt, Hunt, Dr. Johnson, Jones Ben Jonson, Kents, Kemble, Knowles, Lamb, Landor, Lodge, Logan, Lovelace, Lydgate, Lyly, Macaulay, Mrs. Maclean or L.L., Mallet, Marlowe, Marston, Marvel, Massinger Mickle, Middleton, Milman, Milnes, Milton, Miss Mitford Moir James and Robert, Montgomery, Moore, Motherwell Nash Norton, Oocleve Otway Parnell Peele Ambrose Philips, John Philips, Pope, Prior, Proctor Quarles, Raleigh, Ramsay, Rogers, Rowe, Charles Sackville, Thomas Sackville, Savage, Sir Walter, Scott, Seward Shakspeare, Shelley, Shenstone, Shirley, Sidney, Skelton Smith, Smollet, Somerville, Mrs. Southey, Sotheby, Robert Southey, Spenser, Suckling, Swift, Taftford, Taylor, Tennyson, Tickell, Thomson, Turner, Tassier, Wade, Waller, Warner, Joseph, and Thomas Warton, Webster, West, Wilmot, Wilson, Wither, Wordsworth, Wotton, Wyatt, Young.

DARLINGTON & CO.,

49, Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta.

ESTABLISHED IN 1875.

DATTA'S
Laboratory.

HOMCEOPATHIC

No. 312, Chitpore Road; Bartallah, Calcutta,
TERMS EASY—Cash.

Price List with Calender 1879, free to the customers only. Postage ½ anna, price 2 annas.

B. K. DATTA,

Homoeopathic Practitioner.

GOVERNMENT CINCHONA FEBRIFUGE.

An efficient substitute for Quinine. Sold by the principal European and Native druggists of Calcutta. Obtainable from the Superintendent, Botanical Garden, Calcutta. Post free, at—4oz, Rs. 6; 8oz, Rs. 11; 16oz, Rs. 20-12. Cash with order.

TO LET AND FOR SALE.

The following large and commodious dwelling houses together with land pertaining thereto.

At DUM DUM "Fairy Hall," AT NAIHATI, the house lately the property of Bipprodass Mitter with numerous and valuable fruit and other trees and tanks well stocked with fish.

Apply to the Land Mortgage Bank of India Ltd. No. 1A, Hare Street, Calcutta.

THE ANNUAL GRAND FANCY FAIR,

NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1880.

At the Villa "Seven Tanks" in aid of Calcutta Charities.

By appointment,
To His Highness THE MAHARAJAH DHEERAJ
OF BURDWAN.

C. K. SEN & CO.

KOBIRAJ DRUGGISTS AND CHEMISTS,
Calcutta,

AYUR VEDA MEDICAL HALL

No. 146, Lower Chitpore Road.

C. K. SEN & CO'S

Dantashodhana Churna or celebrated Dentifrice.

The regular use of this powder is sure to cure all diseases of the gums, cures ulceration, prevents bleeding, sweetens the breath, perfectly cleanses the teeth of tartar and all other noxious matters and renders them pearl white.

Price per Box 8 Annas. Postage &c., 8 Annas.

4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.

C. K. SEN & Co.'s

CURE FOR HYDROCELE

If the disease be of one years standing, the use of one box only of this medicine is sure to cure. If it be of long standing, the regular use of the medicines for a longer period will cure 90 cases out of 100, and it is warranted to remove all complications such as fever, debility &c. however long they may have existed. It also restores the virile powers which have been lost on account of the malady.

Price per box Rs. 2, postage & 8 annas.

4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.

C. K. SEN & CO'S

Kuntalabrishya or World-famed Hair Restorer.

The regular use of this invaluable oil most certainly cures baldness and prevents the hair from falling off or turning prematurely grey. It cures diseases of the head and brain and strengthens weak and failing eye-sight. It possesses a very sweet odour.

Price per Bottle Re. 1. Postage &c., 10 As.

2 Bottles can be sent by the above postage.

C. K. SEN & CO.'S

Superior & Genuine Makaradhwaja.

This is one of the most potent medicines of the Hindu Pharmacopoea, never fails to produce the most satisfactory results in cases of debility from whatever cause arising seminal, constitutional or otherwise. It acts like a charm in typhus or typhoid fevers, chronic diarrhoea, habitual constipation, gleet, gonorrhoea, spermatorrhoea, female complaints after delivery, weakness of the brain from excessive mental labor, and in all complaints to which the persons of sedentary habits are especially subject.

Price 7 grains per Rupee or Rs. 24 per Totah.

Postage 4 As.

All the above preparations are perfectly innocuous and may be taken by persons of all sexes and ages with perfect safety.

BINOD LAL SEN, KANAIJ,
Manager

SPECIFIC FOR DYSMENORRHOEA

OR

PAINFUL MENSTRUATION (बाधक चक्रवर्ति)

A single administration during menses generally cures the disease and brings on conception.

For particulars apply to Dr. Bhobhun Mahan Sircar, No. 77, Mooktaran Baboo's Street, Ghosh Bagan, Calcutta.—Price Rs. 38.

Sole Agents. B. M. SIRCAR & Co.

INDIAN ELECTRIC LIGHT CO. (LD.)

Mr. Fischer the General Manager in India of the above Company has arrived in Calcutta and will be glad to furnish estimates for and answer any enquiries regarding the use of the Electric Light.

GILLANDERS ARBUTHNOT & CO.

Agents.

LIFE OF DAVID HARE, 1 Re. & 8 As.

Spiritual Stray Leaves, one rupee.

By PEARY CHAND MITTRA.

To be had at No. 20, Nimtolla Street, Calcutta.

THE HINDOO PATRIOT.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

All Subscriptions payable in advance, and none for less than one month.

	IN TOWN.	Rs. As.
Per Month	1	2
" Annum	11	8
" Single Copy	0	8

	IN MOFUSSIL.	Rs. As.
In Advance per Annum	13	4
Arrear Do.	15	8

	RATES OF ADVERTISEMENT.	Rs. As.
Per line	0	4

Printed and published by WOOMESH CHUNDER NUNDI, at the HINDOO PATRIOT PRESS, No. 108, BARANUSY GHOSH STREET, CALCUTTA.